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Likud MK Ariel Sharon last night addresses a rally opposite the Prime Minister's Office ending a week-long hunger strike by him and 39 other anti-government protesters (story, Page 2). (Brian Hendler)

Biran: IDF, PA can't share control of Hebron

DAVID MAKOVSKY

IT is "impossible" from a security standpoint for both the IDF and the Palestinian Police to share control of Hebron, OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran said yesterday.

His remarks pointed to differences within the Israeli team negotiating with the Palestinians on security.

"Hebron is the type of place that is so complex that, in my view, it is impossible to have two authorities operating in the same location," Biran said in an interview on ITV Channel 2 last night.

Israeli and PLO negotiators are likely to agree next week to divide security authority over the city between the IDF and the PA, senior Israeli officials said.

Hebron is considered to be one of, if not the last major hurdle before an agreement on expanding autonomy is reached.

The interview was the first time that Biran, who is known to be privately critical about some security aspects of the agreement, has publicly spoken out about an issue so sensitive to the negotiations.

He refused to comment on reports he might resign if he does not get his way on security issues.

The interview, according to sources, was cleared both by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

In response to alleged comments by unnamed senior negotiators that he might be "crossing the line" and undermining the implementation of the autonomy deal, Biran retorted that it is "a bald-face defamation."

"I admit there are differences between us. There is no unanimity of views. There is a struggle," he declared. "For example, I am responsible for security. Security is very complex. Every little detail has an impact on the actual implementation. Therefore, there is no room to give in."

He suggested that he believes the IDF – in which he admitted there are different views – is entitled to a say on the shape of the negotiation, since the hardest part of the deal will be its implementation on the ground.

"Those who say that signing an agreement is [the essence] are completely mistaken," he said. "Signing the agreement is just the beginning. Problems crop up when it comes to patterns of terrorism or how the agreement is understood by the two entities, the two sovereignties that exist in the same complex and difficult 5.500 sq. km."

Hebron has been of central concern to the Palestinians. Palestinian negotiator Ahmed Qreia has warned there will be no elections in Hebron, if there is no IDF redeployment there.

While Israeli negotiators say it is difficult to have the Palestinian Police take control of part of the city and still have the IDF protect the 400 Jewish settlers there, the Palestinians say it is unfair that the future of the 120.000 people who live in Hebron and the surrounding area should be determined by a few settlers.

Earlier this week, Qreia reportedly said he does not mind if the IDF stays in part of Hebron, as long as it is written in the agreement that the arrangement is "exceptional and temporary."

Both Israeli and Palestinian sources said that Hebron is difficult not only because it is the only place where settlers live inside an Arab city, but also because it is home to some of the most radical Israelis and Palestinians in the territories.

Sources have said that the compromise envisioned would have the IDF patrol the Jewish areas of the city, the Cave of Machpela, and the road to Kiryat Arba. The PA would patrol most of the rest of Hebron, and the unarmed multinational force that

(Continued on Page 2)

PA claims apprehended Hamas man planned to attack capital bus station

ALON PINKAS and agencies

PALESTINIAN security forces arrested a Hamas militant, his beard already shaved off and explosives ready, just hours before he was to leave on a suicide bombing mission in Jerusalem yesterday, the PLO said.

The man, 22, was arrested with four others in a sweep in which at least 30 Hamas members were detained, the PLO said yesterday.

"The Preventive Security Service caught him. He was fully prepared – he had explosives and had shaved his beard ... and arranged to travel to the central bus station in Jerusalem," PLO official Sufayn Abu Zaide told Israel Television.

"He planned to blow himself up there at 3 a.m. [yesterday]," he said.

According to Palestinian sources in the Gaza Strip, the arrests were part of a periodic crackdown on Hamas activities in strongholds in the south of the Strip.

Some of the arrested militants had also planned to attack Palestinian Authority officials and police officers, police said. Weapons, explosives, and thousands of rounds of ammunition were also confiscated in the crackdown, they said.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat confirmed yesterday afternoon that Hamas activists were rounded up, but seemed surprised the figure was only 30.

"Just 30? More than that," he was quoted by news agencies as saying in Gaza.

Meanwhile, the IDF announced it would lift the week-long closure of Jericho at 4 this morning.

Ministry will seek back-to-work orders if teachers strike

HAIM SHAPIRO

EDUCATION Ministry Director-General Shimshon Shoshani yesterday threatened to seek back-to-work orders for teachers, if they strike on the first day of school.

He said the issue of security has nothing to do with either the educational system or teachers' working conditions.

School is due to start on Friday for 1.7 million children, barring a strike by either teachers or parents groups over plans for the police to provide protection for the country's schools.

The teachers unions have threatened to strike unless every school has a guard, and the National Parents Organization has said classes would not be held in any school which does not have a security guard.

In response Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz said yesterday that plans for mobile police protection of the schools are far superior to the previous system of a guard at every school. Many of the guards were not professional, he said.

Shoshani predicted that by the year 2000 there would be two million children in the school system. He said special efforts are being made to improve the teaching of technology in the system.

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said there was still a problem in teaching everything relating to behavior and that this year particular emphasis would be placed on instilling the value of courtesy.

In another press conference, Parents Organization chairman Shai Lachman threatened not only a strike over the issue of school security, but a parents revolt over unreasonable school fees. He said the organization had been unable to reach an agreement with the ministry over the acceptable level of school charges this year.

Lachman said the ministry no longer set a maximum fee allowable for school trips. He said the organization, together with the Consumer Protection Authority, had issued a guide to parents, advising them of their rights regarding school payments.

Closed circuit TV to protect schools, Page 3

Shevardnadze escapes assassination attempt

TBILISI (AP) – Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze survived a powerful car bomb in his motorcade yesterday, suffering minor cuts and a psychological blow to his efforts to stabilize the country.

Several people were injured and six or seven government cars were blown to pieces when a car packed with explosives blew up outside Georgia's parliament – just moments before Shevardnadze was to leave the building for his car.

He was heading to a ceremonial signing of Georgia's new constitution.

"The entire nation will rally against terrorists and terrorism," Shevardnadze later told television reporters at the First Republican Hospital, where he was treated for cuts to the face from flying glass. "I am sure we'll settle the score with terrorists."

Best known as the former Soviet foreign minister who helped orchestrate perestroika under Mikhail Gorbachev, Shevardnadze has led his native country since 1992.

Georgia has been wracked by crime, coups and civil war. And Shevardnadze, Georgia's former Communist boss, has made many enemies while trying to dilute the power of assorted warlords and secessionists.

He recently has appeared to be making progress in stemming the chaos. In recent months, he ordered the main paramilitary group, the Mekhedrioni, to disarm, and pushed through the constitution.

The document creates a presidency with greater powers than Shevardnadze now has as head of state and chairman of parliament. He is expected to run in November presidential elections.

"It's clear Shevardnadze's enemies tried to assassinate the head of our state to stop the signing ceremony," said Shevardnadze's spokesman, Ramaz Sakvarelidze.



Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze talks to reporters yesterday in the hospital. (Reuter)

He said Shevardnadze was in a hallway when the explosion hit at about 6:40 p.m., filling the corridor with smoke and glass. All the windows on one side of the building, including those of Shevardnadze's suite of offices, were shattered.

A few heavily wounded people were wheeled into the hospital on stretchers.

The wounded reportedly included Shevardnadze's chief of staff and some of his bodyguards.

Shevardnadze resigned as Soviet foreign minister in December 1990 and returned to lead Georgia after its first elected president, the late Zviad Gamsakhurdia, was ousted in a coup. Shevardnadze had been invited back by a strange coalition of warlords and democrats.

"When I returned to Georgia, it was committing suicide," he once said, adding that his fate and his country's were inextricably intertwined.

"I knew I was jumping into a cauldron," he said.

Nicknamed the "Silver Fox," the 67-year-old Shevardnadze is known as a survivor. During Georgia's 1993 war in the breakaway Abkhazia region, he went to the front line and survived several near-misses from shells.

He also has survived some controversial alliances in his efforts to keep Georgia whole, and even many of his critics in Georgia consider him the only man who can bring the country through its crises.

Parliament and cabinet called an emergency session, and tanks surrounded the television center and parliament building.

Shevardnadze is considered in delicate health, and hours after the blast remained hospitalized.

Arafat adviser: Jerusalem has always been an Arab city

HAIM SHAPIRO

ON the eve of the celebration of 3,000 years since King David made Jerusalem his capital, Yasser Arafat's senior religious adviser has announced that Jerusalem has always been an Arab city.

"Jerusalem has been an Arab city throughout history," Abdel Salam Abu Shuheide, deputy director of the Palestinian Authority's Wakf, told an interreligious gathering in Jerusalem yesterday.

Shuheide also related to the definition of jihad, a term used by Arafat. Jihad, Shuheide said, is the supreme effort of purification for the sake of God. It does not mean the use of force, he said, adding that when there is opposition to jihad, force is permissible.

In an apparent defense of the PA security services, which recently acted against Hamas activists, Shuheide said it is necessary for every religious group to consolidate its piece of land. For laws to be accepted, it is necessary to

(Continued on Page 2)

Cabinet: All working women to receive tax credit

AS of January 1, all working women, married or unmarried, will receive an additional one-half income tax credit point, worth about NIS 63 a month, the cabinet decided yesterday.

The decision followed a revised proposal by the Treasury, which had originally suggested canceling the full credit point granted to working married women. However, a storm of protest led to a reconsideration.

Some 240,000 women who did not previously receive a tax credit will now benefit. In addition, the cabinet decided that working mothers would receive a tax credit point for each child; until now they have received a credit only for each odd-numbered child.

According to the Treasury, the new proposals represent a fairer division of benefits, which have hitherto only been granted to married women.

However, the proposal will cost the Treasury NIS 240 million more than it had previously anticipated, and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said that by the middle of October he would bring a proposal to increase the state's revenues by an equivalent amount to the cabinet.

The Histadrut decided yesterday to fight the Treasury's attempt to cut by a half a point the tax exemption granted married working women at the beginning of the year, as partial compensation for the sharp increase in health tax.

NEIL COHEN and MICHAL YUDELMAN

The Histadrut found an unexpected ally in the Likud's coordinator in the Knesset Finance Committee, MK Dan Tichon, who lashed out at the government for "deceiving married working women by robbing them unjustly of half a credit point. The credit point was given women as a compensation for the increased cost imposed on them with the advent of the National Health Insurance Law."

Tichon charged the government is "causing instability in the economy" and said it is "incapable of finding the NIS 240 million it needs to cover its deficit."

Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet also objected to cutting the tax exemption for married working women, pointing out that the bottom line of the Treasury's decision is that more women have lost than gained.

At an emergency meeting of trade union and Na'amat representatives at Histadrut headquarters, trade union section chairman MK Amir Peretz blasted the Finance Ministry for its plan to balance the state budget by cutting down the credit given working married women.

Peretz stressed that the credit point was given to women because they deserved it, and not as charity.

Na'amat chairwoman Ofra Friedman lambasted the government's tax policy, but commended the Treasury's decision to add a half a credit point to unmarried working women, who until now received no tax compensation for maintaining an independent household with all its expenses.

It was decided to set up a joint struggle committee, which would fight with every public and organizational means against any attempt by the Treasury to harm working women.

Tax credit points

	Now	1.1.96
Single woman	0	½
Married woman without children	1	½
Married women + 1 child	2	1½
Married women + 2 children	2	2½
Married women + 3 children	3	3½
Married women + 4 children	3	4½

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Opposition hunger strike ends

A CROWD estimated at between 1,500 and 2,500 took part in an anti-government rally at Jerusalem's Wohl Rose Garden last night, marking the end of a 40-person hunger strike during the week-long mourning period for victims of the Jerusalem bomb blast.

Likud MK Ariel Sharon, greeted with a loud ovation and chants of "Arik, Arik," told the crowd that rather than requesting wanted Hamas members believed to be in Jericho, "We need to go in there and finish them off, as well as the terror infrastructure."

Sharon said it makes no sense for Israel to request the extradition from the US of Hams leader Mousa Abu Marzook, "while here, in Jericho and Gaza, wanted murderers are roaming free."

Referring to yesterday's incident near the entrance to Jericho – where some 200 Palestinians rioted against the closure clamped on the city, chased three border policemen from their post, and burned its Israeli flag – Sharon said that had he been in charge, he would have given the soldiers an order to "shoot to wound."

Hundreds of policemen and border policemen formed a human wall around the Prime Minister's Office across the street from the demonstration. A water cannon was brought to the scene, as were police on horseback. The police, who have come under a great deal of criticism for not wearing identification tags at right-wing demonstrations, had their names hand-written on tags they wore on their shoulders.

Sharon both started and ended the demonstration with appeals to the crowd not to get into any confrontations with the police. He complained, however, that despite an agreement demonstrators had with police, it did not allow cars into the government compound, forcing people to walk long distances to the demonstration. Midway through the protest, the police spokesman said, cars were allowed into the compound.

Although there were no physical confrontations between police and demonstrators, the allegedly brutal behavior of police at previous demonstrations was the subject of many of the speeches.

"What is happening to the Israel Police?" asked NRP MK Shaul Yahalom. "A government that has truth on its side is not afraid of demonstrations, but stands firm and explains its position ... But this hypocritical government sends the police to every small demonstration to scare people away from protesting, to close off streets, to make it so they can not get here."

Ariel Bachrach, whose son Ohad was killed last month by terrorists in Wadi Kelt, said he has no illusions the hunger strike would influence the government to change its course. "If we would all die from the hunger strike it would not move them [the government]," he said, adding that his reason for participating was to "shake the country from its apathy."

Nearly a dozen people spoke at the two-hour rally and before the speeches all 40 hunger strikers were introduced to the crowd. The loudest ovations were reserved for former Tehiya MK Geula Cohen, Efrat's Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Moledet MK Rehavam Ze'evi, and Sharon.

HERB KEINON

Ze'evi won't be prosecuted for threat to use violence

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal said yesterday charges will not be pressed against MK Rehavam Ze'evi (Moledet), who said in the Knesset Monday that if the police use tear gas against demonstrators, "we will consider this live ammunition and respond accordingly."

Ze'evi also said that if the opposition returns to power it will settle accounts with police who have allegedly beat right-wing demonstrators.

At a Tel Aviv pres conference, Shahal said these statements constitute a threat to the police, but that the police have no intention of censoring speech. He said that he consulted with Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair about the matter.

Justice Minister David Liba'i also addressed Ze'evi's comments during a swearing-in ceremony for newly appointed judges at the President's Residence. "I want to extend warm greetings to the police, who are working according to law to enforce the law.

"And I warn against questioning the obligation to obey the police, or attempts to abandon police to violence, slander, or threats."

Ze'evi stood by his comments in an interview with *Israel Radio*, saying that at a recent demonstration he witnessed policemen beating women, children, and the elderly who were standing on sidewalks and not involved in the protest. This, he said, but was "sadism for the sake of sadism."

"Most police think like we do, and say so in private," Ze'evi said. "The wonderful police do holy work, but there are a few among them – including officers, and it begins with the officers – who do horrible things. These police will be in our black book and will be brought to judgment."

Referring to his comments about tear gas, Ze'evi said, "Jews using gas against other Jews in the Jewish state is the craziest thing possible ... I would also protest it if it was used against the left."

As to what the protesters would do if tear gas is fired against them, Ze'evi said, "I'll tell you when we get to that."

Planned meeting with Arafat gets NY rabbis in trouble

A GROUP of New York rabbis, armed with a resolution in support of the peace process, ran smack into its maelstrom yesterday when it was learned that some had planned to meet today with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The visit with Arafat in Gaza "was not on the itinerary that we worked out on Friday," Rabbi Gilbert Rosenthal, executive director of the New York Board of Rabbis, said in New York.

Late last night, the trip's organizer, the Tel Aviv-based Center for Peace, was trying to salvage the visit, although one delegation member said flatly, "It's off."

Rabbi Jay Rosenbaum, head of the delegation – with Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform members – noted on its arrival in Jerusalem on Monday that while they have diverse and often antagonistic views, they are "united in the cause of peace."

Some members of the delegation wanted to meet with Arafat, although the meeting did not have the board's support. It was believed that any encounter could be misinterpreted.

The delegation met yesterday morning with the protesters outside the office of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, including Rabbi Shlomo Riskin of Efrat, who previously served a congregation in New York.

"We told them that what opinions we form will embrace their concerns," said one member of the delegation.

Adding that the rabbinate is Israel "is our natural partner," he said the government had asked the delegation to condemn the rabbinic statement telling soldiers to disobey orders.

"We refused to meddle in the domain where religion and politics meets in another country," he said.

"We are spiritual leaders entering a politically charged domain," he said. "We're not here to be commentators on the fine details of Oslo 1 and Oslo 2."

Under the anspices of the Foreign Ministry, the rabbis met with President Ezer Weizman, Rabin, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Deputy Foreign Minister Eli Dayan, and Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg. They also met with Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu.



Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat takes a walk near Gaza City beach with tourism Minister Uzi Baram after their meeting yesterday. (AP)

Palestinians to confront Shahal on closure orders

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal, who is to attend today's session of the Eilat talks, will be confronted with a Palestinian demand that he withdraw the closure orders presented to three Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem on Monday.

Sources close to the minister, however, said he would not back down and rescind the orders, which give the institutions until Friday to close or be shut down.

"If Israel goes through with its plans [to close the institutions], it will cast a disturbing shadow over the peace talks," said Hassan Abu Libdeh, a Palestinian negotiator who heads one of the organizations, the Palestinian Statistics Center.

Abu Libdeh said the Palestinian negotiators would demand that Shahal halt the closure plans.

On Monday, the Palestinian Health Center, and yesterday, the Palestinian Broadcasting Authority and Palestinian Statistics Center, sent letters to the Police Ministry demanding they be allowed to remain open.

The letters detailed the institutions' position that they are not connected to the Palestinian Authority. Ministry sources, however, said there is little chance the appeals would alter the closure plans.

"The files against these three institutions were personally reviewed by the minister before the decision was made to close them," said one source. "He would not have made such a decision if he thought there was a weak case."

The appeals are being reviewed by Reuven Levy, the Arab affairs adviser to Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz, and police legal experts, according to the sources.

Meanwhile, Mayor Ehud Olmert, speaking to members of the Foreign Press Association, reiterated his belief that "it will take some time, but I am confident that Orient House will eventually be closed."

Olmert added that it is an "insult" for foreign delegations to visit the PLO's Jerusalem headquarters.

"It is against all diplomatic precedents that officials from overseas visit places against the will of the government," Olmert said.

He singled out Swedish Deputy Prime Minister Mona Sahlin, who cut short a visit, then postponed a return trip after several ministers objected to her paying a call on Orient House.

"I hope that the lesson learned by the deputy prime minister of Sweden will be sufficient for any future visitors," Olmert said.

Visitors don't have to agree with Israel's position on Jerusalem, he said, "but when you come to visit, you don't have to insult me."



Brazil's Foreign Minister Luiz Felipe Lampreia visits Yad Vashem yesterday. (Isaac Harari)

Baram and Arafat discuss joint tourism plans

Jerusalem Post Staff

TOURISM Minister Uzi Baram met yesterday with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij, who is in charge of tourism for the PA. It was agreed that a committee will be established to deal with a master plan for joint tourism between Israel and the autonomous areas.

One of the central issues involved is cooperation on events for the 2,000th anniversary of Christianity.

Arafat said that he views cooperation in tourism as important since tourism represents a major source of employment for Palestinians. He added that, in advance of the 2,000th anniversary celebrations, millions of Christians will visit the area, and they will want to move safely between Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Nazareth.

Baram proposed the beginning of joint development of the northern Dead Sea. He noted his intent to allow Israeli entrepreneurs to build hotels in the area, adding that he is waiting for Palestinian entrepreneurs to come forth.

Baram also said that he would be pleased to approach international investors with regard to the construction of hotels along the coast of Gaza – since this would contribute to the peace process, create employment and bring calm to the region.

Arafat said he would examine the matter after the Israeli and Palestinian teams conclude their talks on the second phase of the settlement.

Government may turn Postal Authority into company

JUDY SIEGEL

A DETAILED proposal to turn the Postal Authority into a government company with much more independence will be prepared by Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat.

The proposal will be based on the report prepared by the Boaz Committee on telecommunications licensing and supervision, which was established six months ago at Aloni's initiative. The committee has so far issued an interim report in which it recommended changing the Postal Authority's status.

The authority has, during the past few years, argued that under its current status, getting government approval for offering new services is extremely difficult and slow. As an independent government company, it would be much freer to introduce new, money-making services, such as those offered in Europe. Some of these rent out space in post office branches to manpower and travel agencies and other profit-making enterprises and provide full-service banking.

Liba'i denies request to free convicted Brazilian murderer

JUSTICE Minister David Liba'i yesterday rejected a request by Brazil to free a Brazilian national jailed for a decade for the murder of an IDF soldier.

Brazil's visiting Foreign Minister Luiz Felipe Lampreia asked Liba'i to free Lamia Hassain Marouf, convicted of helping her husband kidnap and murder a soldier in 1984.

Liba'i denied the request.

"With all due respect to the importance we hold for the relations between us and the Brazilian government, the government of Israel cannot answer this request," Liba'i said in a statement.

"The fact this person holds a Brazilian passport is incidental," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Yigal Palmor. "She has been tried and convicted ...and she has shown no remorse."

Marouf is in the 11th year of a life sentence handed down to her by a military court in 1984.

Lampreia also met with Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, as well as PLO chief Yasser Arafat in the Gaza Strip.

Israel and Brazil are also discussing cooperation agreements in the fields of science and hi-tech.

No further information was immediately available on Marouf. (AP)

Burg to ask Swiss to return Jewish money

Jerusalem Post Staff

JEWISH Agency chairman Avraham Burg is to travel to Switzerland next week to meet with the Swiss president and banking leaders, whom he will ask to return to the Jewish people money taken during the Holocaust by the Nazis and deposited in Swiss accounts.

After his meetings in Switzerland, Burg is to travel to Belgium to meet its banking leaders and present a similar request.

Upon taking office six months ago, Burg also became the co-chair of the World Jewish Restitution Organization, along with Edgar Bronfman.

Many Jewish organizations belong to the WJRO, set up to reclaim property confiscated from Jews during the Holocaust.

Experts estimate there are hundreds of millions of dollars worth of Jewish money in Swiss bank accounts.

There may also be valuables and works of art, especially those belonging to Hungarian Jews, in accounts opened by Nazi officials to deposit bribes they received from Jews in return for safe passage out of Europe.

Burg said he would demand complete information on money belonging to the Jewish people and its rightful return.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today, 1 p.m., at the YMCA, King David Street. Michal Zmoira-Cohn will speak on "Tolerance."

To Cecile Ben Simon
Deepest sympathy on the death of your
Father אביך
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ARAFAT

(Continued from Page 1)

set up institutions to preserve the law: an army or security service.

"Is is right that people of Palestine, who believe in the holiness of Jerusalem, should be expelled from their homes to make room for people who come from Russia?" he said.

The gathering, a symposium of Jews, Christians, and Moslems, was organized by the Community of St. Egidio, an Italian lay Catholic organization devoted to promoting world peace.

Yesterday's opening session, at the Armenian Patriarchate in the Old City of Jerusalem, included the participation of Armenian Patriarch Torkom Manoogian; Rabbi Mordechai Piron, former chief chaplain of the IDF; Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace; and Prof. Andrea Riccardi, president of St. Egidio.

Piron described Jerusalem as the heart of the Jewish people, the focus of thinking and striving of Jews all over the world. It is the center of everything Jewish, he said.

Etchegaray noted that Jews, Christians, and Moslems are all sons of Abraham and have common roots in Jerusalem, but each understands its meaning in a different way.

For Jews, there is a historical and geographical link; for Christians, it is the place where their faith was born; and for Moslems, it is where Mohammed had his mystical experience.

For all three faiths, he added, it is the place where all will be called together in the end of days.

"Jerusalem must again become the place of understanding between all the sons of Abraham," he said.

BIRAN

(Continued from Page 1)

served in the city after the Baruch Goldstein massacre would return.

Meanwhile, US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross, who is visiting in a private capacity, held talks with Arafat in Gaza, then met Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Jerusalem.

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Lod area residents protest against airport expansion

HUNDREDS of residents of the Lod area demonstrated yesterday at the site where work has started to expand Ben-Gurion Airport.

The protesters blocked Airports Authority bulldozers, which have begun to divert Nahal Ayalon, as part of the Ben-Gurion Airport 2,000 project. The bulldozer drivers halted their work and the protesters climbed on the vehicles with their placards.

"We won't let the government decide things that will ruin our life," residents said.

Emek Lod Regional Council head Moshe Menashe, who organized the protest, called on all Dan region residents to "wake up and open their eyes and to protest against the project."

The mayors of Holon, Bat Yam, Rishon Lezion, Ramle, and the heads of other local councils have also decided to begin a protest against the project and will hold emergency consultations this week.

Another group of Lod area residents held a sit-in at the offices of the Airports Authority at the airport. The group was confronted by residents who work at the airport and who expressed their support for the project.

Labor Party Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli was at the scene to meet with authority head Motti Debi, and said he saw great importance in expanding the facility. However, he said it is equally important to establish other airports.

Authority spokesman Yehiel Amitai said the construction being carried out was approved by the High Court of Justice. (Itim)



The arms and ammunition pictured above were found in a Sunday police raid on the Abu Ghosh home of Jabar Yakoub (inset), whose remand was extended for 15 days by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday. The remand of his wife Nadia was extended by 10 days. (Brian Hendler)

Sixth grade boys to be vaccinated against rubella

JUDY SIEGEL

STARTING this school year, sixth grade boys will be vaccinated against rubella (German measles) in addition to girls, the Health Ministry announced yesterday. The aim is to reduce the incidence of this childhood disease, making pregnant women be less likely to encounter someone with it and expose their fetus to its serious dangers.

Until now, only girls have been vaccinated to prevent them coming down with the disease when pregnant. Among the possible complications in fetuses exposed to the virus are heart disorders, cataracts, deafness, and mental retardation.

The ministry said the immunization schedule of Israeli infants and children is "among the most advanced" in the world. Aside from vaccinations for babies up to the age of 15 months, schoolchildren receive the following shots: in first grade, against measles, rubella, mumps and polio; in third grade, against diphtheria and tetanus; in sixth grade, against rubella; in seventh grade, a tuberculin skin test to detect TB.

All the vaccinations are usually given during the first trimester of school before the colder winter months, when children are more likely to be ill.

The local authorities are responsible for providing vaccinations according to standards set and enforced by the ministry. The Knesset Education Committee recently set the coming year's annual health fee at NIS 49 per pupil – the same as last year.

The ministry said parents should demand other health services from their children's schools, including periodic checkups of vision, hearing, and posture, as well as educational programs on prevention of smoking and drug abuse; sex education; and the dangers of exposure to the sun.

The ministry said it will inform parents whose children do not receive these services or if they do not meet basic standards, and parents may also complain to the nearest district health office. Parents are entitled to be present during checkups and may refuse to have them carried out if they inform the school's medical team of their objections in advance.

Closed circuit TV to help protect schools

RAINE MARCUS

CLOSED circuit television systems will shortly be installed in schools whose surrounding fencing is inadequate, according to police deputy operations chief Dep. Cmdr. Shahar Ayalon, who organized the new police program for school security.

"First we have to test the systems on schools in areas like Tel Aviv, where the fencing is sufficient, to see what students' reactions are," Ayalon told a press conference at Tel Aviv police headquarters.

Yesterday and today police nationwide are carrying out drills in schools to test the security system to be introduced with the new school year, which begins Friday.

This year 108 new "school security" police vehicles will patrol school areas throughout the country, replacing hired security guards at their gates.

In elementary schools and institutions in sensitive areas, such as on the Green Line and in Jerusalem, private security guards will continue to be assigned to schools.

The cost of the police project for this coming school year will be some NIS 90 million.

In spite of objections by parents and some schools, Shahal said he is convinced the new plan making police responsible for security is the best possible and will prove itself.

"In the past," he said, "there were complaints that too much money was spent on private security companies to guard schools."

The police security plan will cost much less than previous arrangements. According to some senior police officers, loss of employment is one reason for objections to canceling private guards.

Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz urged parents and teachers not to stage a strike on Friday in protest against the new security system.

"More or fewer guards will not solve the security problem in schools," said Hefetz. "It may be hard for the general public to accept the new plan, but we are convinced this is the most effective one.

"Instead of threatening to strike, I suggest the public place their trust in the ability of the police to find the most effective method of safeguarding their children and to continue searching for new methods."

In the greater Tel Aviv area, he added, most schools have been fitted with emergency buttons, enabling teachers and principals to summon police patrols directly.

When a school's emergency button is pushed, a red indicator will light in a nearby patrol vehicle, giving the school's name and address. The patrol car, manned by three policemen, can reach the school within minutes.

In a real emergency, said Hefetz, reinforcements would be alerted immediately. New policemen and women, especially recruited for the new program, will work with veteran officers.

Ministry to seek order against strikers

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health Ministry yesterday asked the State Attorney's Office to apply for a restraining order against 2,000 of its workers who went on strike nine days ago. The office tried to reach a compromise with the union, but failed, so the Jerusalem Labor Court will hear the request for the order this morning.

In the meantime, the union – which is demanding pay rises – says it will halt all public reception at district health offices today.

Ministry workers are not approving imported food. A ship with 50 containers of food is waiting in port, its crew unable to unload them. According to the union, food importers are calling Health Minister Ephraim Sneh day and night demanding that a way be found to resolve the strike.

However, the key to this lies with the Treasury, which declared yesterday that the workers "don't deserve another cent."

The strike has halted the issuance of burial licenses, but people continue to die. Ministry spokeswoman Yifat Ben-Hai said the ministry has given hospitals temporary permission to issue the licenses.

In addition, government-owned family health centers in the North are closing, and many others are running out of vaccines.

Meanwhile, the Israel Medical Association expressed its "outrage" over having been persuaded by the Treasury a few weeks ago to forego NIS 110 million in wage increases for another year, while at the same time making major cuts in the health budget. The IMA claimed that the public hospitals have a NIS 800m. deficit and are "on the edge of collapse."

A Treasury spokesman denied there is any such danger, and that the NIS 14 billion available for health services can cover all vital needs.

Ben-Hai said that the hospitals are facing a very difficult situation, but added that Sneh has "no intention" of resigning if his demands for eliminating cuts in his budget are not met.

K. Shmona mayor target of alleged phone tappers

DAVID RUDGE

KIRYAT Shmona Mayor Prosper Azran was one of the main targets of two suspected wiretappers, who were arrested on Monday.

Azran said his mobile phone had apparently been tapped by the suspects, two local private investigators.

The suspects, both former policemen, were arrested after police raided their office and confiscated sophisticated recording devices, including scanners for tapping mobile phones, and a large number of tapes of recorded conversations. Police are trying to discover who ordered the alleged wire taps.

The two suspects, who reportedly are refusing to cooperate, are expected to be brought before Tiberias Magistrate's Court today for a remand hearing. Azran said he had been informed by police that he had been one of the targets and that conversations he had made from his mobile phone had been recorded.

"I suppose I could guess who might want to tap my phone, but I certainly don't want to make accusations against anybody. I'm sure the police will conduct their inquiries and find out who was behind it," he said.

Police believe that the suspects tapped the phones of several public figures, as well as private people, in the town and its environs.

Five Sderot youths charged in rape of retarded girl

FIVE young men from Sderot were charged yesterday in Beersheba District Court with gang-raping a mentally retarded 16-year-old girl.

Judge Efraim Laron, the deputy court president, banned publication of the names of several suspects who are not minors to prevent the identification of the underage suspects and the rape victim.

According to the indictment filed by the Southern District Attorney's Office, the girl left her Sderot home at about 8 p.m. on August 17 and met a boy, 18, whom she knew. He was accompanied by two strangers, 16 and 18.

The three accompanied her to a nearby school yard, where they were joined by two other boys, 16 and 17. The five proceeded to rape, to sodomize, and abuse the girl.

Two of the five are charged with rape and the others with attempted rape; two with sodomy, and four with unspecified deviant acts.

The gang rape ended after the girl's cries were heard by a neighbor, who called the police. Her assailants ran off when a patrol car approached.

The girl was found in serious condition and has been under treatment ever since.

On the morning following the rape, the police tracked down the five suspects and arrested them.

At yesterday's hearing the prosecution asked the judge to order the suspects held until the end of proceedings, noting the seriousness of the crime they are charged with and saying they would represent a danger to the public if they were released on bail.

Judge Laron ordered the five held pending a remand hearing on September 7. (Itim)

Cabinet delays decision on import of more workers

THE cabinet yesterday delayed consideration of Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer's suggestion that another 15,000 foreign workers be brought in.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir, Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban, and Economics Minister Yossi Beilin spoke out against the idea, and it was not brought up for a vote.

"If anyone thinks that I am happy about bringing in foreign labors or that I'm glad Israelis don't want to work in construction, he's wrong," Ben-Eliezer said.

"We must stop the flood of foreign workers, both legal and illegal," Tzaban said.

Ben-Eliezer later said that the cabinet did decide that since contractors have so far brought in only 42,000 of the 51,000 workers previously authorized, another 9,000 could be brought in. (Itim)

Divers discover two more bodies in wreck of 'Mineral Dampier'

DAVID RUDGE

DIVERS have discovered two more bodies inside the wreck of the *Mineral Dampier* following the resumption of search operations on Monday after a two-week respite.

The bodies were found in the body of the ship in a stairwell leading to the main deck. The ship is lying on the bed of the East China Sea about 80 meters deep. Divers from the Oceanic company were expected to make another dive around midnight last night to try to recover more bodies.

The *Mineral Dampier* sank some 160 kilometers south of Korea on June 22 after being struck in thick fog by a South Korean vessel. The 27 crew members, nine of them Israelis, 10 Filipinos, five Romanians and three Belgians, were all reported missing after the vessel sank.

Since then searchers and divers have recovered six bodies from the sea and the wreck itself, three of them Israelis and three Filipinos.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Construction engineer dies in fall

Construction engineer David Shalom, 62, of Tel Aviv, fell to his death yesterday afternoon at a building site at the corner of Oppenheimer and Geiger streets in Tel Aviv.

Shalom, the site engineer, apparently slipped and fell from a 10th-floor bridge linking two sections of the building. *Itim*

Demand for electricity hits record

Due to the heat wave, a new record for electricity used over a 24-hour period was set Monday night as demand hit 103.6 million kilowatts per hour. The previous record was set on August 15.

At 2:30 p.m. Monday, a new record was hit for hourly demand and demand was similar yesterday at that hour. *Itim*

Man jailed for tax evasion

Claude Cohen, 43, of Bat Yam, who owns a shop which manufactures custom van bodies, was sentenced to nine months in prison and a year's probation by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court for failing to pay NIS 5,296 in income taxes he deducted from his employees' salaries. *Itim*

Palestinian women's delegation says Arafat tried to censor them

MEMBERS of Yasser Arafat's self-rule government and Islamic leaders tried to muzzle Palestinian delegates before they left for the UN women's conference in Beijing, women activists said yesterday.

The Palestinian Authority told the women to focus on their suffering under Israeli military rule, and play down issues such as Palestinian domestic violence and the unequal treatment of women under local laws, said delegate Merwat Rishmawi.

"The authority tried indirectly to tell us that we should concentrate on the violence of the occupation and not the social violence, not to display our dirty laundry," said Rishmawi, a researcher at the human rights group Al Haq.

The top Moslem authority in Jerusalem, meanwhile, demanded the women stay away from discussions in Beijing on extra-marital sex, homosexuality and abortion.

"We are a conservative society that controls the freedom of individuals," Mufti Ikrema Sabri said.

Sabri, who was appointed by Arafat, said his ruling on the women's conference was faxed to Beijing by Arafat's office as the official Palestinian position.

Diab Ayoush, Palestinian deputy welfare minister, acknowledged yesterday that he tried to give the women delegates "guidance" before they left for Beijing yesterday.

The Palestinians sent two delegations, a 15-member official group headed by Welfare Minister Intissar Wazir, and 40 women representing private groups.

Ayoush said he reminded the women that they represented a predominantly Moslem society.

He said Islamic law ruled clearly on many issues affecting women, such as inheritance and polygamy and that the women should take the Islamic stance in Beijing.

"Our instructions were not orders. Many women understood our positions and some opposed them just because they are the opinions of men," Ayoush said.

Many delegates said they resented the interference.

"We reject such dictates," said Rawda Basir, who works with handicapped adults in Nablus. "We don't want to represent the line of the political leadership."

Basir said the law provided little protection to Palestinian women.

She said Arafat's government has dismissed women's demands for changes, arguing that the autonomy accord with Israel didn't give the PLO the authority yet to pass new legislation. (AP)

Beijing conference, Page 4

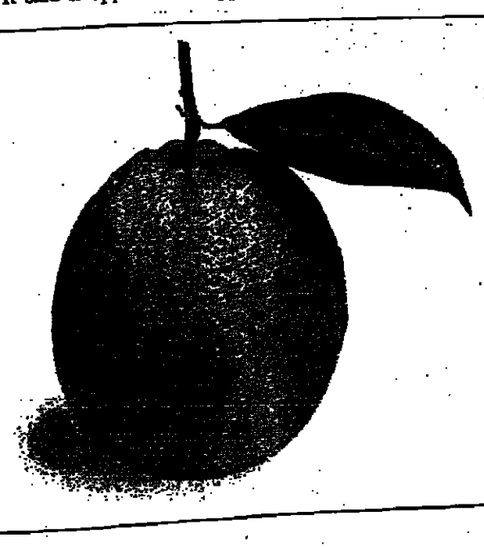
Histadrut opposes committee's recovery plan for Habima

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE Histadrut said yesterday it would go to court to prevent the recommendations of the committee appointed by Arts Minister Shulamit Aloni to draw up a reorganization plan for the Habima Theater from being put into effect.

It said it opposed the appointment of resigned general-manager Ya'akov Agmon as professional director, subordinate to a receiver and court supervision.

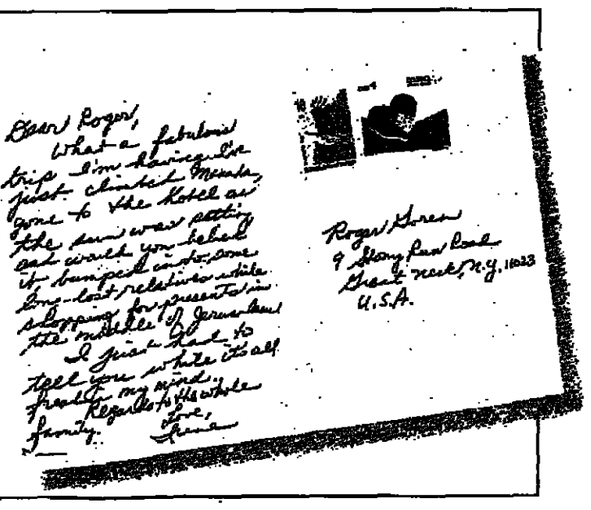
Trade Union Division head MK Amir Peretz said the theater's 200 union workers should have the right to suggest a suitable director.


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China curbs UN women's free speech

News agencies

BEIJING

THE Chinese yesterday clamped limits on free speech at an international grassroots women's forum, prompting a brisk challenge from the top official of the United Nations-sponsored meeting.

Expanding on earlier edicts barring unauthorized protests in Beijing, a senior security official said demonstrations against China and its leaders were also banned inside the venue of the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) forum in rural Huairou.

Public Security Vice Minister Tian Qiyu, security boss for the UN World Conference on Women and its affiliated NGO forum, said protests were allowed only in a middle school sports field in the NGO site, which is sealed off from the Chinese public.

Speech is not free even there, he said.

"Inside the site, NGOs are permitted to have demonstrations and processions but these should not infringe on the sovereignty of the host country and should not slander or attack leaders of the host country," Tian said at a Beijing news conference.

The Chinese moved the meeting from central Beijing to the town near the Great Wall, a move activists and diplomats suspect was made to isolate them.

Even though China is allowing only a token site for protests, the concession is unprecedented. The government has effectively banned all public demonstrations since it crushed the pro-democracy movement in Beijing in 1989.

Rumors have been circulating among Chinese in Beijing that women participating in the NGO Forum, which opens today, plan to protest nude in the streets.

Tian Qiyu, vice-minister for public security, said marches and protests would be allowed at the Huairou No. 1 Middle School.

"Within the designated area, relevant organizations can have processions and demonstrations, but these activities should not infringe upon the sovereignty of the host country and should not attack or slander the state leaders of the host country, nor shall such activities be allowed in which violence is taking place against other persons," he said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Chen Jian explained at a biweekly briefing that China is allowing but restricting demonstrations in line with UN regulations and practices at previous conferences.

Those rules apply to areas used by the conference and the NGO Forum designated as "UN premises." Any activities which take place outside those areas fall under Chinese law, Chen said.

"Any organizations or individuals attending the World Conference on Women shouldn't use it as an opportunity to interfere in China's internal affairs," Chen said.

Those wanting to demonstrate elsewhere must submit requests to local police, Tian said. Such requests likely will be denied.

Organizers of the NGO Forum have said 36,000 people applied to attend. But Chinese officials said yesterday that they sent only 26,000 confirmation letters.

Huang Qizao, vice-president of the Chinese Organizing Committee and director of the NGO Forum Committee, declined to explain why so many couldn't come. He said "with proper procedures and with proper formalities, all can come to attend the forum."

A Foreign Ministry official said the government expects up to 9,000 official and private representatives attend the official UN-sponsored conference, which starts Sept. 4.

China banned some Taiwanese and Tibetan applicants to the NGO Forum, arguing that Taiwan and Tibet are part of China and are represented by Chinese participants.

Huang was asked why Liu Shyh-fang, a member of Taiwan's Democratic Progressive party, was denied a visa even though she was part of a delegation from Liberal International, the world union of liberal parties which is accredited to the United Nations.

Huang implied that Liu should have sought accreditation as a Chinese, not a foreigner. China claims sovereignty over Taiwan. Liu's party favors Taiwan's independence.

French block Greenpeace chopper

News agencies

PAPEETE, Tahiti

A French military helicopter blocked a Greenpeace chopper from approaching a 20-km exclusion zone around Mururoa Atoll, where France plans to resume underground nuclear testing, possibly within days.

The protest helicopter took off from the vessel MV Greenpeace, the environmental group's command ship, which has just arrived in the area.

It was intercepted by a French helicopter from one of two navy frigates shadowing a flotilla of anti-nuclear ships and yachts in waters off the island, about 1,000 km east of Tahiti.

A Radio New Zealand reported yesterday that the two helicopters faced off in midair at the edge of the exclusion zone. They flew around each other for several minutes before retreating to their respective ships.

France said resumed nuclear testing was "very close." New Zealand and Cook Islands politicians handed an angry note to the French navy from a protest boat off the test site.

As tension mounted at Mururoa Atoll, Greenpeace finalized plans for its protest flotilla in its bid to prevent the resumption of testing after vowing to breach a 20-km military exclusion zone.

"There is no doubt that we are very close now to the beginning of the campaign," the commander of French test sites in the South Pacific, General Paul Vericel, said from the atoll, about 1,200 km south of here.

"We are now doing preparations to make our experiments from September 1," Vericel said by telephone.

French atomic energy officials said one of the nuclear explosions would be weapon strength – almost 150 kilotons.

Vericel was speaking as politicans from New Zealand and the Cook Islands delivered a protest note off the atoll saying the planned tests were "monstrous".

Cook Islands parliamentarian Tupou Faireka handed over the letter condemning the tests to a French naval lieutenant on board the New Zealand navy research vessel Tui.

"The main message of the letter is our total and collective protest against this monstrous act of test bombing in this paradise of the Pacific and the world," Faireka said from the ship.

New Zealand and the tiny Cook Islands, which has sent a large ceremonial canoe, are the only nations to send ships to Mururoa in official government protests against the tests.

President Jacques Chirac announced in June France would resume testing with a final series of seven or eight nuclear devices at Mururoa or Fangataufa atolls in French Polynesia between September and May.

While the Tui delivered its protest, Greenpeace finalised its plans off the test site after the arrival of the 52-meter Greenpeace, the biggest ship in its fleet.

The French navy kept a watchful eye on the organization, according to a correspondent on board the Greenpeace.

UN confirms Serbs fired lethal Sarajevo shell

SARAJEVO (AP) – The United Nations blamed rebel Serbs yesterday for firing a mortar shell that killed 36 people, and weighed whether to punish them with NATO airstrikes.

The peace process was threatened either way. Hours earlier the rebel Serbs signaled for the first time that they were ready to discuss peace. But the Bosnian government said it would boycott new negotiations if the Serbs were left unpunished.

Monday's shelling of a marketplace was the deadliest single attack on Sarajevo's civilians in the 40-month-old Bosnian war since Feb. 5, 1994, when another mortar attack there killed 68 people.

The Health Ministry said 36 people were killed by the lone shell, and 88 others were wounded. Three others were also killed by shells landing elsewhere in Sarajevo, bringing the total toll for the day to 39 dead and 89 wounded, said the ministry.

UN spokesman Alexander Ivanko said that after examining a UN report on the shelling, Lt. Gen. Rupert Smith, commander of UN forces in Bosnia, "concluded, beyond any reasonable doubt, that the attack came from Bosnian Serb positions."

The UN, in tandem with NATO, recently pledged to protect Sarajevo and other remaining UN "safe areas" with massive NATO airstrikes if necessary.

"All options are now being reviewed, including the use of air power" in response, said Ivanko, adding "strong action" was likely.

Bosnian Foreign Minister Muhamed Sacirbey threatened yesterday to suspend his government's participation in any new peace talks "as long as this kind of terrorist attack goes unpunished."

A US delegation led by Assistant Secretary Richard Holbrooke was to meet yesterday for a second day with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic in Paris. They were to be joined by members of the five-nation contact group, including the United States and Russia.

Holbrooke, who was to travel next to the Serbian capital Belgrade for more talks, said the shelling will "only make us redouble our efforts" to negotiate peace.

The finding that the shell was fired by Serbs put the United Nations in a tough position. Failing to call for NATO airstrikes could be seen as breaking a promise. Calling for airstrikes would almost certainly destroy fragile efforts to bring the warring sides to the negotiating table.

The rebel Serbs issued a statement saying they welcomed a US plan on ending the war. One of their leaders, Momcilo Krajisnik, said: "Now we are optimistic that peace could be reached.'

Even if the United Nations rules against NATO airstrikes, it was unclear whether peace chances were improved. The rebels have been ready to talk peace before, only to introduce conditions unacceptable to the Moslem-led Bosnian government or the international community.

The Serbs' conciliatory stance could be motivated by their need for a respite on the battlefield. They recently saw their Serb allies in neighboring Croatia defeated and suffered their own losses from joint Croatian and Bosnian government army attacks.

The Serbs denied launching Monday's attack, alleging the government army targeted its own people to increase anti-Serb sentiment. They also denied launching the February 1994 shelling.

But Ivanko said the evidence against the Serbs was "basically overwhelming." Another UN spokesman, Lt. Col. Chris Vernon, said radar, crater analysis and acoustic tracing showed the Serbs were to blame.

Ivanko was skeptical of the Serbs' positive response to the US peace plan.

"Even if one can call it a welcome sign, one should look at what they did yesterday to the people of Sarajevo," he said. "I think their actions speak much better than their words."



Friends and family of Hasim Kurtovic, who died on Monday outside the Sarajevo indoor market, pray during the funeral ceremony at the old town cemetery yesterday. (Reuter)

Four Rwandan cabinet ministers dismissed

NAIROBI (Reuter) – Four Rwandan ministers, including the holders of the key interior and justice portfolios, were sacked yesterday, the presidency said.

The announcement in Kigali came a day after Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu either resigned or was dismissed.

Jean-Baptiste Kayigamba, a spokesman at the presidency, said the four ministers had been "called to other duties".

They were Interior Minister Seth Sendashonga, Justice Minister Alphonse Nkubito, Information Minister Jean-Baptiste Nkuriyingoma and Transport and Telecommunications Minister Imaculee Kayumba.

The first three are from Rwanda's majority Hutu tribe while Kayumba is a Tutsi, the minority who dominate Rwanda's army.

Kayigamba said a new cabinet would be announced shortly.

Sendashonga was the frontline minister in trying to restore security in Rwanda after last year's genocide and civil war.

Nkubito had the mountainous task of processing tens of thousands of murder cases against Hutus accused of taking part in the slaughter in 1994 of up to one million Tutsis and allied Hutus. Rwanda's prisons are crammed with more than 50,000 Hutu suspects held in atrocious conditions.

Zairean Prime Minister Kengo Wa Dondo meanwhile gave the United Nations until the end of the year to repatriate the million Rwandan refugees on its territory, warning that any remaining would be forcibly expelled.

Kengo announced the deadline after a day of talks with UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata, who has been trying to resolve a crisis sparked by Zaire's forced repatriation last week of some 15,000 refugees.

But Ogata, whose UNHCR agency has had little success so far in persuading the refugees to return voluntarily, said she could not commit herself to any rigid time-frame.

"The Un High Commissioner for Refugees asked, and we accepted, that it take charge of this operation," Kengo told a news conference. "We gave it a deadline to ensure the repatriation by December 31."

"This repatriation must take place en masse, without interruption, and must be finished by December 31 this year. If any difficulties emerge in the repatriation of the refugees by December 31 at the latest, Zaire reserves the right to expel the refugees from its territory," he added.

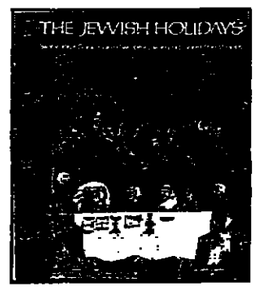
An aide to President Pasteur Bizimungu denied that the dismissal of the three Hutu ministers, a day after the departure of the Hutu prime minister, indicated a closing of ranks by prominent Tutsis.

"The aim of this reshuffle is not ethnic, it is to encourage efficiency and a stronger cabinet team," the aide said.

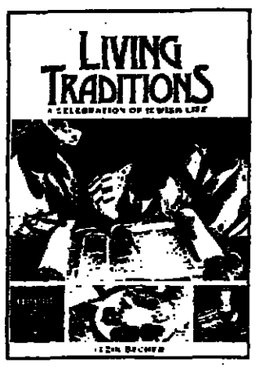
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Footage of 'alien' screened in US

LONDON (Reuter) – Television viewers yesterday won their first sighting of a controversial humanoid corpse, billed as an alien whose spacecraft crashed into the US desert in 1947.

The so-called Roswell incident is among the most celebrated of UFO – unidentified flying object – mysteries and it was the first time its "star", albeit long dead, had appeared on screen in Britain.

With reptilian eyes and a bulbous head, the creature looked exactly like people from earth expect people from outer space to look like. What is different is how seriously she – or it – has been taken outside UFO circles.

British film-maker Ray Santilli says he bought the film from a former military cameraman who is alleged to have filmed an autopsy of the alien after her spacecraft crashed near Roswell, New Mexico.

"We didn't hoax it – 100 percent sure," he said.

UFO enthusiasts pounced on the grainy black-and-white footage as long-awaited proof of life beyond earth, accusing the US authorities of mounting a massive cover-up.

Doubters applauded a sophisticated set of special effects but saw no woman from outer space on the operating table.

"What a load of rubbish!" was the verdict of the Daily Telegraph. "People want to believe in flying saucers but... if you open your mind too much, your brain may fall out."

The footage, shown by Channel Four, depicts a creature with 12 fingers and toes and an outsized, hairless head. Surgeons in huge radiation suits cut through its chest, which appears to ooze blood, and saw at the scalp to expose a gelatinous brain.

Serious newspapers have refused to rule out a summer hoax. Some scientists, too, shied away from outright dismissal.

"There was certainly none of the excitement I as a physicist would expect from doctors having a unique opportunity to autopsy an alien being," according to Stanton Friedman, a US nuclear physicist who has spent decades investigating the incident.

Yet he added: "I am absolutely convinced a saucer did crash outside Roswell. We're dealing with the biggest story of the millenium: visits to planet earth by aliens, and the successful cover-up of the best data, the bodies and the wreckage."

UFO investigators have long claimed a cover-up. The show did not dismiss that theory, interviewing a string of "ordinary" Americans who offered up different pieces of the Roswell puzzle.

It offered no conclusive proof of whether anything – plane, balloon or saucer – crashed or whether the being was man-made, extra-terrestrial or the freakish result of top-secret tests.

Either way, the mystery endures. As Santilli shrewdly said: "There isn't a single shred of evidence that it's a fake."

India renews contact with Kashmir terrorists

SRINAGAR (Reuter) – Indian authorities held a fresh round of talks yesterday with militants holding four Westerners hostage in Kashmir amid hopes the tourists, in their ninth week of captivity, would be released unharmed.

Officials spoke by radio with Al-Faran militants who kidnapped the Westerners in isolated Kashmir in early July.

The latest communication came one day after American Donald Hutchings spoke directly to Indian officials, telling them by radio that he was in good health, as were German Dirk Hasert and Britons Keith Mangan and Paul Wells.

That was the first direct contact between the government and the hostages since the men were abducted and fanned hopes Al-Faran would eventually agree to free the tourists.

"This is another positive development," a senior official of the government of Jammu and Kashmir state said. "We are happy that despite all the deadlines and threats against them, we were able to talk to a hostage and prolong the negotiations."

The government contacted the abductors again yesterday, a state government spokesman said. "We are talking," he said. "We hope that things move quickly, but it is a long, drawn-out process and one has to show patience."

A fifth hostage, Norwegian Hans Christian Ostroe, was found beheaded in a remote region of Kashmir on August 13.

Near his body was a note in which Al-Faran threatened to kill the others unless the government released 15 jailed separatists within two days.

That deadline, like two earlier ones, passed without any apparent harm being done to the hostages as Indian negotiators stepped up efforts to reach a peaceful end to the ordeal, which entered its ninth week yesterday.

The government had requested proof that the four men were unharmed in spite of death threats. A tape recording and photographs released last week indicated the men were in good health, but they dated from August 18, two days before yet another death threat.

In the radio conversation, Hutchings told authorities he and the other hostages were in good health.

Officials seeking proof the others were alive and well asked Hutchings personal questions about them which only they could answer.

Officials would not say if they expected the responses in writing, on a tape recording or over radio.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Iraq said holding Kuwaiti POWs underground

EIGHT ships carrying US weapons arrived in the Gulf and more are heading to the waterway as part of an American military buildup in the region following fresh tension over Iraq, a US Navy official said.

US tanks and armored vehicles on maneuvers in Kuwait will hold their first live-fire exercise in the desert this week following several days of routine maintenance and alignment of weapon sights, US army officers said.

"We currently have eight of the ships in the Gulf," said Commander T. McCreary, spokesman of the Fifth Fleet, adding they were all in international waters. "Some more are coming. We have moved the equipment as a prudent step with regard to the tension in the region."

The US has also brought forward joint exercises with Kuwait as a precaution after observing what it called unusual Iraqi military activity in Baghdad and southern Iraq.

US military activity in the region has also increased since Jordan gave asylum to two senior Iraqi defectors, one of whom called for the overthrow of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The ships carry tanks, artillery, food, fuel, water, vehicles and other equipment to sustain 16,500 Marines in combat for 30 days, a US military spokesman said.

In addition, they carry enough gear to sustain 5,000 to 7,000 US Army troops, said McCreary.

The ships came from the US base of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. The personnel who would use the equipment in the event of any emergency are still in the US, he said.

"We want peace. We don't want anybody to threaten anybody else," said US Third Army Major-General James Taylor, who is commander of US troops in the land exercise.

Asked to comment on perceptions of an Iraqi threat, he told reporters at a tank and armored vehicle encampment 40 km. south of the Iraqi border that Gulf Arabs just wanted to go about their business in peace.

"Anybody who disrupts that, I don't like," he said.

"You never know when someone might go a little bit insane and push a button," said Private First Class Riad Mora.

"But you've got thousands of soldiers around. You've got planes flying around, you've got ships around. If something was to happen I don't think Iraq would stand much of a chance.

"We are all combat ready. We are all ready to go."

Meanwhile, the *Arab Times* reported this week that Kuwaiti prisoners taken during Iraq's invasion of the emirate are being held in an underground prison 25 km. outside Baghdad.

The English-language newspaper, quoting well-informed Jordanian sources, said they are held in the al-Radwaniyah prison.

That was where 30,000 Iraqi dissidents were held, many of them tortured, after the ill-fated Shi'ite Moslem uprising in southern Iraq in March 1991.

Iraqi dissidents and human-rights groups have reported mass killings in al-Radwaniyah, a former army installation that was also used as a prison camp for Iranian POWs during Iraq's 1980–88 war with Iran.

The newspaper said 145 Kuwaiti prisoners once held in the southern capital of Basra are believed to have been "lost without a trace" since that revolt.

The *Arab Times* reported that senior Iraqi officials who defected to Jordan earlier this month said that, at the time of the uprising, 175 Kuwaitis were being held in Basra's central prison, with 400 transferred earlier to Baghdad.

Out of the 175, 145 managed to escape during the chaos that gripped the south during the uprising, which was brutally crushed by Saddam's forces, and their fate is not known, the defectors say.

Saddam is planning to announce "an initiative" on the Kuwaiti POWs, the newspaper said.

There is no way to verify the *Arab Times* report. But following the August 8 defections, Saddam has handed over long-concealed data on his clandestine weapons systems to the UN and there has been speculation he may become more compliant on other UN resolutions, which include the return of some 600 missing Kuwaitis.

Officials here say that Kuwaiti and Iraqi officials are scheduled to meet this week on the border to discuss the fate of the missing Kuwaitis under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross. (News agencies)

Arabs reluctant to join Iraq bandwagon

NEWS ANALYSIS

ANTHONY SHADID

EGYPT'S president says the idea that Iraq poses a threat to other Arabs is nonsense. Syria complains about "exploitation" of Baghdad's weakness. Even archenemy Kuwait seems wary to inflame a dispute with Iraq.

In vivid contrast to the months following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, most Arab countries are reluctant to join the bandwagon seeking Saddam Hussein's fall – each for its own reason.

That means that despite US reports of Iraqi troop movements – backed by statements from Saddam's defector son-in-law and former confidant – the US may have to squeeze Iraq alone.

The most striking evidence yet of Arab dissension with Washington was Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's statement last week that Egypt would not support attempts by foreign countries to overthrow Saddam.

"The fall of the Iraqi regime or its staying in power is a matter which should be left to the Iraqi people," said Mubarak, who was quoted by Egypt's Middle East News Agency.

Mubarak is Washington's main Arab ally and was a key figure in the US-led coalition in the 1991 Gulf War.

The role of Egypt and Syria in the alliance lent it at least some legitimacy among Arabs habitually wary of US intentions.

That same wariness is now shared by other Arab leaders, many of whom have said the dispute with Iraq is being exaggerated.

Unlike 1990, when Iraq was seen as a direct threat to Saudi Arabia, Baghdad now appears more helpless than menacing.

Egypt has sought for months to bring Iraq back into the Arab fold, possibly as a counterweight to the growing influence Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states wield through their wealth.

Mubarak pointedly dismisses any threat posed by Iraq.

"These reports are pure nonsense and Iraq is not in a position to carry out any military operation, especially after the experience of the Gulf War," he says.

Syria, another Gulf War ally, has said little since the August 8 defection of Gen. Hussein Kamel Hassan, Saddam's former arms production chief. But this week, Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa suggested the dispute was serving US interests.

"There have been a lot of exaggerations and exploitation for political reasons," al-Sharaa said during a visit to Denmark.

Some Arabs' fears of US dabbling in the region have no doubt been heightened by the 3,500 US troops sent to Jordan and Kuwait, ostensibly for military exercises but also as a warning to Baghdad.

The reaction of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to the latest fuss over Iraq is more nuanced.

Although the two have sworn never to reconcile with Iraq as long as Saddam is in power, they both realize a new regime will likely mean an end to the UN oil embargo imposed on Baghdad after the Gulf War.

This would allow Iraq to flood the market with oil, a disaster for Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which are struggling with tight finances after failing to keep oil prices high.

Signaling Kuwait's apparent intention not to inflame the dispute, its defense minister, Sheikh Ahmad Hamoud al-Sabah, was quoted as saying Kuwait detected no unusual movements of troops near its border – differing with US reports.

The biggest contrast to the general Arab response is Jordan's King Hussein, who saw his relations plummet with the US after he gave his tacit support to Iraq during the Gulf War.

Now, he's coming across as one of Iraq's main foes, saying Iraq deceived him. He said he decided to support Hassan, who defected to Jordan along with his brother and their wives, both Saddam's daughters.

But importantly, the king balked at closing his border, Iraq's main gateway to the world, or cutting off trade and oil purchases from Iraq, which are vital to both countries.

An editorial in the prominent London-based Arabic newspaper *al-Hayat* also took a different stance. It said the Arabs shouldn't follow Washington, but that did not mean Saddam should not go.

"Why shouldn't removing Saddam Hussein from power be an Arab project instead of an American project, for American objectives and in the context of American strategy?" the newspaper asked. (AP)



Two Iraqi journalists in traditional clothing register for the UN Conference on Women in Beijing on Monday. (AP)

Medieval Cairo street gets face-lift

A millennium ago, al-Muizz Li Din Allah Street ran through the heart of medieval Cairo, its minarets and palaces welcoming travelers to a pearl of the Islamic world.

The modern version is little more than an alley snarled with traffic and shabby workshops, endangering the world's highest concentration of historic monuments.

But the government has unveiled a newly renovated architectural gem as part of a plan to restore the thoroughfare to the glory days of Cairo's Islamic past.

"There is no street in the world with this many monuments, but it is suffering from the surrounding environment, the misuse of the antiquities, even lack of cleanliness," said Abdel-Halim Noureddin, head of Egypt's Supreme Council for Antiquities.

The neighborhood, now known as Islamic Cairo, has long been neglected, overshadowed by the monuments of the pharaohs which grab the attention of archeologists and Western donors.

"It is a street, but we can turn it into a museum," Noureddin said.

The building is the 750-year-old Al-Salihiya school, where workers refurbished the beautifully designed stone facade and minaret in a project sponsored by the German Archeological Center.

Nearby is the 250-year-old Abdel-Rahman Katkhuda fountain, with vivid blue tiles depicting intertwined flowers, also restored by the German government.

Other plans include removing shops built against walls of the monuments and redesigning other storefronts to blend with the street's medieval atmosphere. A ban on traffic is being considered.

Al-Muizz Li Din Allah Street was named after the Arab Moslem leader who invaded Egypt in 969 and founded al-Qahira, or "the victor," from which came the Western name Cairo. The street was the main highway of Cairo under the Fatimid dynasty, which ruled Egypt from the time of al-Muizz until 1171.

Today, it extends about three kilometers and is barely wide enough for two cars – or donkey carts – to pass at the same time. (AP)

Algerian opposition to boycott poll

ALGERIA'S main opposition groups this week formally said they oppose a presidential poll set for November.

The "Rome group" of eight parties also warned in a statement that the polls would prolong the North African country's political crisis and lead to more bloodshed instead of stopping it, as the army-backed authorities hope.

The coalition includes the former ruling party the National Liberation Front (FLN), the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) and the Socialist Forces Front (FFS), three of the largest political movements in Algeria.

The boycott means the authorities have failed to gather a wide consensus for the polls, which they insist will go ahead in November to try to reestablish normal political life.

Some 40,000 people have died since 1992, when the authorities canceled general elections and Moslem militants who had been poised to win them started fighting to overthrow the government and set up a Islamic state.

"[We] oppose the presidential elections organized by the authorities and which do not constitute other than a new formula to reinforce the current regime and prolong the crisis," the National Pact Group said in a joint statement.

The authorities have set November 16 as the first leg of the presidential poll after saying a dialogue with the FIS, the main Moslem militant political movement, had failed because of what it described as the "intransigence" of the fundamentalists.

So far, 10 Algerian politicians have announced that they plan to run for president, but the current head of state, Liamine Zeroual, has not yet made it known if he will also run.

The most serious candidate so far is former prime minister Redha Malek, leader of an anti-fundamentalist movement.

The "Rome group," so-called because it first met in the Italian capital in January, appealed to its followers not to support any of the would-be candidates.

"[We] do not sponsor elections in the present situation as they might be a new factor to increase the danger and push the country to more bloodshed," it said.

"The return to the electoral process needs a national consensus and the reinforcement of democracy after guaranteeing the security, political, information and administrative conditions to permit free and democratic elections," it added.

The group said it also opposes the presence of international observers, which the Algerian government has requested from the United Nations, the Arab League and the Organization of African Unity to monitor the poll.

"Accepting the invitation is a collusion with the [Algerian] regime," the statement said. (Reuter)

Sudan's Mahdi calls for national conference

SUDAN'S former premier Sadeq Mahdi, released from prison this week, has called for a national conference of all groups to solve Sudan's political and economic problems.

He also said he supported dialogue with the government of Lt.-Gen. Omar Hassan Bashir.

In an interview with the independent Sudanese daily *Akbar al-Youm*, Mahdi called for the conference to seek solutions to Sudan's numerous problems.

Mahdi, the leader of Sudan's Umma party, was deposed in a military coup in 1989 led by Bashir and has been detained several times since. He was last detained on May 16 and released with 32 other political prisoners.

Upon taking power, Bashir banned all political parties and trade unions and launched what he called Sudan's Islamic experience, backed by the leader of the National Islamic Front, Hassan Turabi.

Oxford-educated Mahdi, 59, also leads the religious Ansar sect, founded by his grandfather to fight against British occupation in the 19th century.

The US Embassy in Khartoum issued a statement welcoming the release of political prisoners and described the move as encouraging.

"Taken with President Bashir's announcement of national elections next year, it is an advance toward assuring respect for human rights and a government that will be more responsive to the wishes of the people of Sudan," the statement said.

Bashir announced in a televised speech last week that presidential and parliamentary elections are due to take place in Sudan next year.

But he did not say whether he would run.

Mahdi told the London-based daily *al-Hayat* that, following a meeting of all Sudanese opposition parties in Eritrea in July, he was accused of taking part in a plot to overthrow the government, a charge he denied.

Meanwhile, Egypt's interior minister has accused Sudanese religious leader Turabi of helping Egypt's two chief Moslem radical groups to overcome differences and unite against the Egyptian government.

Hassan el-Alfy said militants apprehended by police have given accounts of the role played by Turabi, the power behind Sudan's Islamic government, in coordinating between the two groups.

El-Alfy's remarks were made in an interview with *Al-Hayat*. They are the latest Egyptian claims that Sudan is supporting Islamic militants trying to overthrow Egypt's government.

The allegations heightened after a June 26 assassination attempt on President Hosni Mubarak in Ethiopia, when Egypt said the would-be assassins were guided by Turabi. Sudan denied it.

The movements involved in the interior minister's accusation are al-Gamaa al-Islamiya (the Islamic Group) and al-Jihad. (Reuter)

Iraqi women to demand control of Mideast arms

IRAQI delegates to the UN women's conference in Beijing will demand that all weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, including those in Israel, come under UN inspection, the *Baghdad Observer* said.

The English-language daily quoted Aftikhar Ahmed Ayoub, deputy chairwoman of the General Federation of Iraqi Women, as saying Iraq wants the conference, opening today, to discuss "wars, occupation, military conflicts and embargoes as well as crime."

"Iraq will propose that all weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East region, including those of Israel, be subject to UN inspection," she said.

Iraq is under UN trade sanctions imposed for its invasion of Kuwait.

They cannot be eased or lifted unless Iraq gets rid of its weapons of mass destruction. (Reuter)

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Feeble protests

LIKUD MK Dov Shilansky, one of the hunger strikers protesting against the Oslo agreement opposite the Prime Minister's Office for the past week, said yesterday he was encouraged by the public's response. Thousands have visited the protest tent, he declared, buoying the strikers led by MK Ariel Sharon with expressions of sympathy and support.

But such pronouncements seem to reflect wishful thinking more than reality. The fact is that the opposition to the government, which according to opinion polls encompasses a majority of the country's Jewish population, has been unable to galvanize the public and act effectively.

The reasons for this failure are probably many. Demonstrations, whether costly, organized, and massive or sporadic and small, seem to have limited impact. Depending almost wholly on the kind of coverage the media give them, they are as good as wasted if the media are hostile. It seems, too, that the public's readiness to participate in demonstrations has diminished, perhaps because, as Sharon seems to believe, television has made it more passive, and because it is beginning to doubt the efficacy of protest.

But the basic problem of those who wish to change government policy is that most Israelis, regardless of how they respond to pollsters, do not feel that "the process" truly poses a personal threat to their safety. This is why the participants in demonstrations are overwhelmingly residents of the territories, whose lives are directly affected by the government's moves. Only in the hours and days immediately following terrorist strikes do Green Line Israelis seem to feel that the danger is close enough to warrant doing more than jeer in their living rooms when government spokesmen appear on television.

It is most likely that for the foreseeable future each element in the political constellation will play out its role in what has become a familiar pattern. The government will continue making concessions to reach an agreement while postponing implementation of its more painful provisions until after next year's election.

The Palestinian Authority will go through the motions of arresting Hamas leaders, careful not to affect the organization's ability to act as long as it adheres to the agreement not to launch strikes from the self-rule areas. The Islamic terrorists will score few successes as long as the army controls the territories, but broaden their base of operations in the cities evacuated by the IDF. And the US will insist on ceremonies which will afford President Bill Clinton opportunities to appear as a Middle East peacemaker.

None of this seems particularly threatening. But the government's path leads inexorably to Israeli withdrawal from virtually all the territories and the establishment of a Palestinian state on the 1949 armistice lines. And unless the opposition manages to convince Israelis that such a development will endanger Israel and that there is a credible alternative, it will have only itself to blame if all the current protests, demonstrations, and hunger strikes are remembered only as symptoms of political impotence.

Georgia's close call

ALL who remember the enthusiasm and warmth of Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze during his visit here earlier this year will heave a great sigh of relief at his miraculous escape from the terrorist bombing of his motorcade yesterday. Even before the end of the Cold War, Shevardnadze was one of the first Communists to impress the world with a refreshingly honest and open style as foreign minister of the Soviet Union.

There is little doubt he could have remained in the Kremlin as a substantial political force in the new Russia, but instead he chose to heed the call from his native Georgia and resigned from the Foreign Ministry in 1992. It was a brave move to a thankless task – "probably suicide" as he himself put it. Yet, without a man of his stature at the helm, Georgia today would probably be in a worse mess than Bosnia.

The three years since his return have been marked by violence and separatist rebellions, which he has handled with impassive skill and moderation, firmly inching his troublesome countrymen to some semblance of democracy and order. True, Georgia is still a state in shambles with hyper-inflation, a useless currency, and an epidemic of crime. But without Shevardnadze it would be little better than a modern version of the Wild West. From 1991 to 1993, thousands died in uprisings in Abkhazia and South Ossetia provinces and in the violent overthrow of Georgia's gangster-style leader Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who continued his violent attempt to regain power from the west of the country.

At the end of it all, Georgia remained a unitary state as Shevardnadze continued with an uncompromising war on crime and banditry. His slow but sure success was undoubtedly the spur to yesterday's terrorist attack, perpetrated while he was on his way to a ceremonial signing of Georgia's new constitution. The constitution provides for a presidency with greater powers than Shevardnadze now exercises as head of state and chairman of parliament, and he is expected to be the only credible candidate for the post when elections are held in November.

Shevardnadze has still managed time to exercise his old skills in foreign affairs and he has been the most enthusiastic of former communist leaders in forging a new relationship with Israel and with Georgian Jews who have immigrated here. In 1993 he was one of the first foreign leaders of stature to press Iran for information on the missing Ron Arad.

It can only be hoped the attempt on his life will shock Georgians into realizing that without him Georgia might yet cease to exist. It is up to them to ensure that his reforming efforts continue and that terrorism is not handed a victory.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HURTING THEIR CAUSE

Sir, – Even though I was one of the fortunate people who arrived from work well before the demonstrators brought traffic on the nation's road to a standstill, I felt nothing but anger as I watched the endless lines of vehicles, sometimes moving at a snail's pace, but mostly not moving at all.

Had I been stranded in my car after a long day at the office, I cannot imagine that I would have been praising these people for turning a half-hour drive into a two-hour drive in the name of "Israeli security." Shmuel Sackett ("Protesters snarl traffic all over the country," August 9) is living in a dream world if he believes that people will be understanding of what his group has done, or, even more absurd, they will be supportive. A neighbor spoke of being stuck in traffic in different locations between Ashdod and Re'ut, thanks to those who have taken it upon themselves to make our roads more secure. Needless to say, she wasn't feeling terribly supportive once she finally arrived home.

Antics such as those that have taken place in recent days – especially the blocking of roads during peak hours – have begun to create resentment against certain segments of the population. Whether or not their goals are worthwhile is not for me alone to judge. However noble these goals may or may not be, alienating the majority of the population (or at the very least, those serving in the Israel Defense Forces or those who travel on our nation's roads) through foolish acts of defiance is not the solution.

LIZA FARACHDEL
Re'ut.

IMMIGRANT LOANS

Sir, – I refer to your article of August 1, "Unnecessary loan repayments hurt thousands of poor immigrants," in which the spokeswoman of the Zionist Forum is quoted as saying that three years ago, the immigrants who received money from the Jewish Agency in an absorption basket grant were sure they were receiving a grant and only a year later discovered suddenly that the grant had turned into a loan and that they had to repay it. Tanya Weintraub is wrong.

All those involved were aware of the decision to change the "conditional grant" to a loan, adopted in the course of 1991, as it was widely publicized and debated and was only implemented at the end of that year. All the immigrants without exception knew very well that what was involved was a loan and they also knew the rules and conditions of repayment. The immigrants who had received the loans from commercial banks were required to bring guarantors for these loans. They had to to sign the forms in Russian and Hebrew and received detailed explanations concerning the conditions of repayment, as is usual when receiving loans.

We deeply regret the difficulties of those immigrants who continue to pay for loans which had been canceled because of the banks' red tape, for which we are not responsible. As we have already stated, as soon as the banks have completed their accounts in this matter, we will credit the immigrants retroactively, as of February of this year.

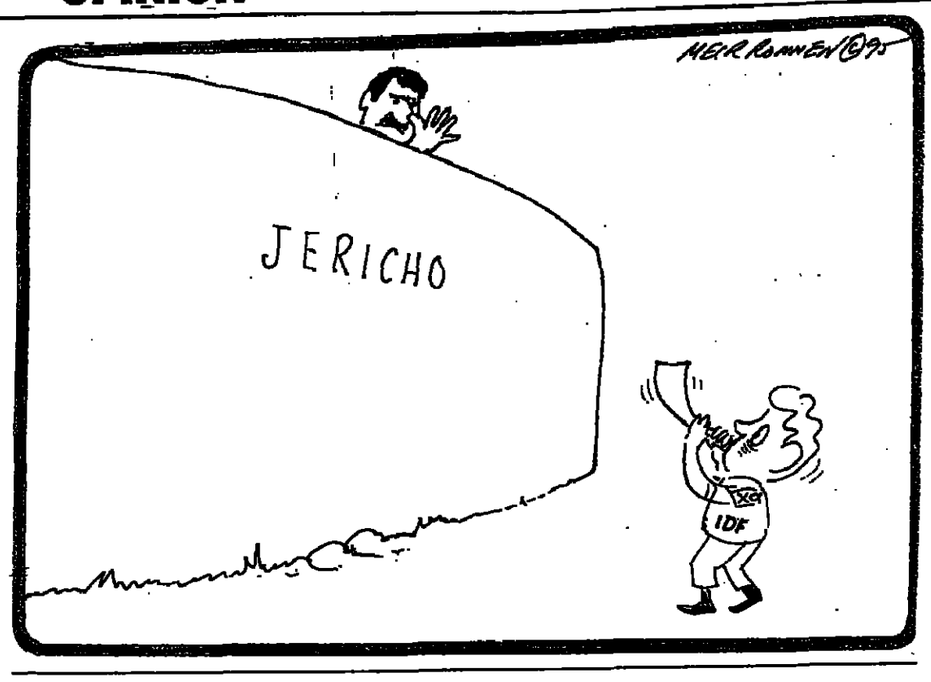
ELDAD ADAR, Spokesman,
The Jewish Agency for Israel
Jerusalem.

PATRIOTISM

Sir, – In response to Teddy Kollek's column of August 11, "Patriotism is not a subject for ridicule," I would like to state that I agree with his argument that today's "fashion" of rewriting Zionist history is reprehensible. Indeed, if Ben-Gurion had not made the decisions he made – despite world opinion and Arab threats – Israel would probably not exist as it does today. However, equating Yitzhak Rabin with Ben-Gurion is also reprehensible. Rabin today is making those very decisions which Ben-Gurion rejected. He is caving in to international and terrorist pressures, instead of standing by his principles as Ben-Gurion did.

As for rewriting Jewish history, it is not the people demonstrating who are doing that, it is the government, with statements such as "Hebron has never been culturally important to the Jews." It is not the people who do not respect the government – it is the government which does not respect its citizens. Because those people who settled empty lands in the Golan and in Judea and Samaria are not willing to have their lives and homes dismantled like so many pieces of Lego, they are labeled "obstacles" and "enemies" of peace, instead of pioneers, Zionists and patriots, as all preceding governments have called them. By doing what it is doing, if I may quote Mr. Kollek, the government "weakens their country and the very core of our existence."

REESA STONE
Beersheba.



Security first, surely

AVRAHAM TAMIR

AS the government struggles to implement interim agreements and spends a fortune on bypass roads which will be handed over to sovereign Palestinian rule in a few years, the de-facto Palestinian government is in effect crystallizing a permanent settlement leading to the establishment of a Palestinian state in all the territories, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

We are told that the confrontation over the final political accommodation for East Jerusalem, permanent frontiers and settlements in the territories is to be deferred until negotiations on the permanent settlement.

But what can we do? The showdown has already begun.

Our leaders enlighten us to the effect that even a tiny Knesset majority is enough to ratify peace plans; but they forget that it is a significant *Jewish* majority that is needed in the Knesset and the nation – for what we we are talking about is the future of Israel as a Jewish state.

A majority of Israelis might agree to live in peace and security with a Palestinian state in most of the territory of Judea, Samaria and Gaza; but, meanwhile, public confidence in the way peace is being made is eroding, because it is a way that does not bring us security.

When the leaders of the Labor bloc first raised the banner of the Jordanian option, the Kingdom of Jordan was touted as a party to the permanent-status negotiations, which would be executed in stages (as was done with Egypt);

The showdown with the Palestinians has already begun, but public confidence is eroding

and would guarantee the end of terrorism and violence from the territories, right from the start of negotiations.

WHAT HAS changed since then?

The PLO leadership has replaced Jordan – a fact that doesn't explain why what was right regarding Jordan should not be followed with the leadership of the Palestinian people.

It doesn't explain why it can't be made clear to Arafat that, after he establishes a state in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, additional territories will be transferred to him only after an agreement has been made on the permanent borders, the status of East Jerusalem, and the future of Jewish settlement in the territories.

It doesn't explain why we can't condition the permanent-status negotiations – or at any rate the transfer of more land to PLO control – on the total cessation of Palestinian terrorism from the territories, in all forms and in any direction.

If Arafat is incapable of ruling his people (as the architects of Oslo promised he would do), the Palestinian people must have another, more capable leadership.

Surely it would be preferable to consolidate a majority of the nation around permanent arrangements linked to conceding most of the territory of Judea, Samaria and Gaza and the Golan Heights (to the Mandatory frontier). The condition would be that the talks and implementation of the agreements occur against a background of security and good-neighborly relations.

Wouldn't that be better than moving ahead in an atmosphere of insecurity, with a peace ringed round by electrified fences, with backroom dialogue conducted via the US on issues that determine Israel's destiny – the sort of thing that is going on with Syria?

The writer, a retired IDF general, is a former director-general of the Foreign Ministry, and of the Prime Minister's Office.

Exports – the acid test

STEF WERTHEIMER

PRIME Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres deserve support for their commitment and decisiveness in advancing the peace process. This is especially true after last week's murderous attack in Jerusalem.

Predictably, angry criticism of Rabin and Peres has increased in the wake of the attack. We identify with the pain behind this criticism; it is, after all, our pain.

No one has a monopoly on pain. But our identification oughtn't to be measured by the noise of the response, but by our next political and economic moves.

Rabin and Peres are operating under difficult cultural and psychological conditions. After every murderous attack it turns out that they haven't yet prepared the public sufficiently for peace. They haven't yet revealed the whole price of peace. They haven't explained the alternative challenges.

After every murderous attack we see how deeply rooted is the feeling that we are a "besieged" and "persecuted" people.

The IDF, and modern Israeli industry, science, culture and art have perhaps slightly moderated this feeling, but they haven't destroyed it. It still drives us. Some of our politicians have made careers out of the fear they have fomented among the nation.

THIS IS just the time we should be supporting Rabin and Peres. It is the perfect opportunity to give Rabin and Peres a new message in the fields of industry and export, and education.

I will never tire of saying that this is where the sane and healthy future lies. Rabin and Peres must turn their eyes and thoughts to these fields.

For 50 years we have concentrated on security and neglected exports, which hold the solution for our economic independence. That attention to security was once essential, and I'm not criticizing it.

But today I ask myself: What will 120 Knesset members and 25 ministers talk about when the longed-for peace arrives? If television, radio and the newspapers are any guide, perhaps when peace arrives, we will not notice it. We will still be immersed in our favorite subjects: our history, recent and more distant, our fears for our security, and the wars we have gone through. The future isn't on the agenda of the Israeli media.

It's time to support Rabin and Peres and put the future on the agenda

And I ask myself: Is the public aware that our leaders haven't prepared us for the new challenges peace will bring? They should have made us learn from the Chinese how to turn the nation's attention and energy to industry, and from the Turks how to sell products successfully to Germany.

They should have taught us to respect the achievements of other nations not just in financial terms, but in terms of manufacturing productivity and export growth. These are the acid test of economic achievement.

For the last six years I have been lecturing to tens of thousands of young people, mostly soldiers. The question they always ask is: "What will we do after our military service?"

How do the educational system, the schools, and our leaders respond to this? They drive home the importance of security, ignoring the importance of productivity and exports. The result? Many of these young people go abroad. Some of them never return.

What should the nation's parameters and priorities be, with elections on the horizon?

It is vitally important that we elect a responsible group of representatives, one that understands that the keys to economic independence are productivity and exports.

Such a group will aim to live successfully as part of the Middle East and the Mediterranean basin. The standard of living in Israel will rise, enabling young people to make their homes here instead of emigrating.

We have the tools to succeed. There should be no place for fear. Those who frighten us are mostly politicians, who traditionally live on problems and hate solutions.

The writer is an industrialist and entrepreneur.

POSTSCRIPTS

GREAT MOMENTS in bureaucracy: the US Supreme Court upheld a ruling that cut off disability benefits to a quadriplegic man because he earned $350 a month by typing with his toes.

The court turned down arguments by Paul Spragens, of Sheridan, Wyoming, who suffers from a deformity of the joints that left him with no use of his arms and limited use of his legs. He uses a motorized wheelchair and works as a freelance book indexer, typing with his toes.

In 1988, government officials ruled Spragens was no longer eligible for Social Security benefits because his earnings averaged $349.26 a month. Under federal regulations, disabled people become ineligible for benefits if they earn more than $300.

Government officials also are demanding that Spragens return $19,930 in benefits he received while working as an indexer.

THE DESCENDANT of an early US settler has finally made good on a $100 debt owed for 160 years to Texas revolutionary hero Sam Houston.

O.G. McClain, 84, mailed a $100 check to Sam Houston IV to settle a debt listed in the estate of Colonel James Ross, McClain's great-great-grandfather, who was killed in 1835.

"I hate debts and I feel sure Grandpappy Ross did too," McClain wrote.

Houston IV says he considers the debt settled, despite accumulated interest on the loan estimated by a bank at $420 million.

The reason for the loan is unknown but it may have involved the sale of a horse.

Unsure footing

ERIC GUTWILLIG

I enjoy reading Jeff Green's literary column. Unfortunately, when he enters the realm of politics, he is on far shakier ground – which makes me wonder whether he wouldn't do better to stick to literature.

In the very first sentence of his article "Zionism is much more than settlements" (August 1), he refers to "... territories occupied after 1967."

Rateb Sweity, writing in *The Jerusalem Post* of August 8, makes the same mistake. He accuses Prime Minister Rabin of stating that "peace does not mean... the full return of the Palestinian land occupied in 1967."

The term "occupied territories" is used so glibly in connection with the lands of Judea and Samaria that most people gloss over it without second thought. This is unfortunate. The use of this term is harmful to our interests; and as a description of the area referred to, it is simply incorrect.

What exactly is "occupied territory"? According to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, "to occupy" is to "take and hold possession of, as by conquest."

Let's hear no more about 'occupied territory'

From whom, exactly, did we take Judea and Samaria? When the Ottoman Empire was defeated at the end of World War I, Judea and Samaria were not allocated to Jordan – for the very good reason that Jordan was not yet in existence. The only possible legal claimants were the Jews, who were promised the land under the terms of the British Mandate.

Green says it was inadvisable to squander precious resources on the settlements, with the consequent neglect of social services on this side of the Green Line. He also tells us that he has read convincing articles by experts who are of the opinion that we violated the Geneva Convention.

Like Green, I have also read articles which claim that Israeli settlements in Judea and Samaria violate the Geneva Convention. But I have also read articles, even more convincing ones, to the effect that our activities there are perfectly legal.

As for squandering precious resources – investing in Judea and Samaria would have been a very sound proposition if previous policies had continued to be pursued.

GREEN lists the various "crimes" Israel is supposed to have committed in the "territories," such as demolishing and sealing off houses, deporting citizens, etc. But he writes not a word as to why we resorted to such measures.

The Jews are not a cruel people. If we took severe steps, it was because we had no alternative. What else were we supposed to do with murderers and saboteurs who waged war against schoolchildren and other innocent people?

I detest violence as much as Green does, but I take my hat off to the General Security Service, to whose skill in tracking down many terrorists before they carry out their vile deeds we owe the fact that we can live normal lives, even if they are interrupted from time to time by suicide bombings.

What I utterly fail to understand is why it is wrong to create a settlement in Kedumim, when it is perfectly fine to settle in Nahariya. The former was taken in 1967, the latter in 1948. Neither was in the area allotted to us by the UN.

When a party starts a war, as the Arabs did in 1967, and loses territory in consequence, it can't expect to have that territory returned on a silver platter.

Why isn't Alsace-Lorraine considered occupied territory? It was taken from the Germans by force. Why isn't East Prussia? The list is endless. Only when Israel captures territory is it "occupied." And that largely because some of our own writers insist on applying that label.

It is time we stopped apologizing for crimes we haven't committed, and ask whether Arab aggression didn't have something to do with all the wrongs we are supposed to have done.

And then, please, please, let's hear no more about "occupied territory."

The writer is a Haifa-based freelancer.

Drinking
HAIM SHAPIRO

THE JERUSALEM P
LITTLE BREAK

Imagine a child in a poor family, or in shame for orphans or the disabled. There's always a reason, it seems, for other kids to get presents: holidays, birthdays, achievements, or just for being good.
But no gifts are there for this child. There may be no tears on the outside, but inside, another little heart breaks in silence.
The Jerusalem Post Toy

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

The key to good work habits is in the model

PARENTING

RUTH MASON

I have terrible work habits. I procrastinate, I'm disorganized and I get distracted. How can I instill good work habits in my children?

Judy Baumgold, social worker and therapist at Shiluv Institute for Family and Couples Therapy, replies:

My question to you would be, is this your perception of yourself or is it how others experience you as well? We are often overly critical of ourselves and I wonder if this might be what's going on here. It would be worthwhile to check this out with colleagues and friends and see whether their perceptions match yours.

Children are very perceptive and they model themselves on their parents' behavior. Most of the time, children learn from the way their parents act, and only some of the time do they learn from what parents say and tell them to do.

So, if you discover through the feedback you get that you really are disorganized, it would be important for you to change your work habits so that your children can learn from your example.

Alternatively, they can learn to accept that this is the way you are and you can learn to accept that if your children are like this, it's not so bad. If your evaluation of yourself turns out to be based on an overly critical self-perception, it would be important to examine your expectations of yourself so that you can become more accepting of yourself and so that you will have more realistic expectations of yourself and of your children.

If you are overly critical of yourself, your children may pick up that habit, which is much more destructive than being disorganized!

My seven- and eight-year-old sons always fight when the older one has friends over. The younger one always wants to be included and the older one doesn't always want him around. How can I help them resolve this conflict?

Marcia Levine Shbiro, M.A. child and adult psychologist, therapist at the Counseling Center for Women in Jerusalem and chief psychologist at Beit Hayeled, says:

Start by acknowledging and legitimizing each one's feelings. The older child wants his own private time with friends and the younger child obviously admires his brother and his choice of friends. It is also hard to play alone when someone else is having fun right near you. Emphasize to both children that the older one has a need and a right to privacy and time alone with friends (as does the younger one).

To the younger one, emphasize that his brother having time alone with his friends doesn't mean that his brother doesn't love him and enjoy playing with him at other times. Being temporarily out of the scene doesn't mean you are permanently unwanted. Involve the boys in finding a solution to a problem of contradictory but legitimate needs. Some possible solutions are:



1. work hard to have the younger one also invite friends over, especially at the same time.
2. Protect your older son's privacy and need for a separate life.
3. Divide the time when the elder's friends are over so that some of the time the activities are done with the younger brother and some without him.
4. When your older son is occupied, take advantage of the time to do some quality activity with the younger son, even a household chore like cooking, and then you can both benefit.

I highly recommend the book *Siblings Without Rivalry* by Faber and Mazlish.

We're expecting our second child soon. How can we best respond to our five-year-old's questions about how the baby got there (inside me!)?

Lisa Kainan, psychologist specializing in cognitive development, answers:

When parents explain sex and birth to their children, they should take into account the child's level of understanding and allow the child's own curiosity to be a guide as to how much detail to give.

The most accessible explanation will be one that is just one level above the child's current level of understanding. This level can easily be determined by directly asking the child some simple questions about where babies come from.

Children can easily sense a parents' embarrassment or anxiety concerning this subject. To avoid this problem, it can be helpful to practice role-playing questions and explanations ahead of time with a partner or friend.

A common misconception among your children is the "digestive fallacy," or the belief that the baby enters and exits the "mommy's tummy" in the same way food does. Children need to be reassured that their anxieties about this belief are unfounded and they need simple, accurate information about sexual intercourse.

Often, children take too literally such words as "egg" or "seed" and create fanciful accounts of birth, using an agricultural or animal analogy. It can be helpful to address these misperceptions directly using simple pictures or models of male and female anatomy. Children may need repeatedly to ask questions and hear explanations until they can adequately process the new information.

At any age, it's important not to inundate a child with incomprehensible facts or to make a child feel stupid or foolish because she looks at reproduction in a fanciful way.

If you have a question about parenting, write to: Parenting, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Stable Ukraine is a check on Russian power

THE most important thing about Ukraine's fourth independence day may have been that it took place at all. In 1991, when the republic decisively doomed the crumbling Soviet Union by declaring independence, many Western analysts predicted that Ukraine would also split up.

But Ukraine celebrated its anniversary last Thursday as one of the most stable of the former Soviet states.

Its consolidation of statehood is widely described by Western analysts and governments as a new pillar of stability for Eastern Europe.

And Ukraine's independence, after more than 300 years of rule from Moscow, brings an important reduction in Russia's ability to exert power in Europe.

While independent Ukraine is calm, it is not happy. Ukrainians' poverty is steadily deepening as the country struggles to fashion a workable market economy and overcome its dependence on Russia for key goods and energy supplies.

Meanwhile, ethnic Ukrainians and Russians (about 22 percent of the population) squabble over cultural and linguistic issues. And there is no consensus over what kind of state Ukraine should become.

But four years after the August coup attempt that began the Soviet Union's final breakup, most of the 15 former Soviet republics face greater troubles.

Six of them – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Tajikistan – are entangled in civil wars. Authoritarian governments in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have crushed public dissent, forcing opponents into prison or exile.

Constitutional crises have paralyzed normal politics in Kazakhstan, where the legislature has been suspended, and in Belarus, where unwieldy election laws have left the parliament without a quorum.

By contrast, Ukraine is the only post-Soviet state to have peacefully transferred power from one popularly elected president to another.

Official US assessments of this nation of 51 million suggest that this year's independence day may have been the first it has celebrated as a presumed permanent fixture on Europe's map.

Nineteen months ago, a top-level US intelligence estimate said economic depression and the Ukrainian-Russian ethnic divide were moving Ukraine toward war and likely partition. But last May, President Clinton – in the first state visit to Ukraine by a US leader – predicted that Ukraine would "provide an essential anchor of stability" in Eastern Europe.

And Ukraine's consolidation of its statehood solidified broader changes in Eastern Europe – establishing, for the first time in centuries, an independent power on Russia's European border that could act as a political counterweight to Moscow. Ukraine's independence reduced Russia's ability to exert influence in Europe – for example, by ending centuries of direct Russian access to the Balkans.

"Ukraine ... will be an important player ... as an accelerator for Russia's transition into something less imperial," said Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security adviser to president Jimmy Carter.

Ukraine was a central cultural, economic and strategic part of the Russian and Soviet empires for centuries. So now, with an independent Ukraine, "Russia can no longer be an empire" as before, Brzezinski said. "If it can no longer be an empire, it has a greater chance of evolving into a European national state."

While predictions of Ukraine's breakup have faded away, the threat of internal instability remains.

President Leonid Kuchma responded this summer to warnings from social analysts that poverty – deepened by his aggressive market reforms and cutting of the state budget – is increasing the risk of strikes and other conflicts. Some two weeks ago, the government narrowly averted a damaging coal miners' strike by promising quick payment of three months' unpaid wages.

Last month, ethnic and cultural tensions led to Ukraine's first serious political violence since independence. Hundreds of thousands of ethnic Tatars, who were expelled from the Crimea to Central Asia by Stalin in 1944, have been returning to the Black Sea peninsula in recent years.

The Tatars formed "self-defense" groups against intimidation by Russians, who now form the majority of the Crimea's population.

Ukrainian nationalist paramilitary fighters also clashed with police in Kiev last month when they demanded state support for one of Ukraine's Orthodox churches against the rival Russian Orthodox Church.

(Washington Post)

Drinking deeply in a harvest setting at Yonatan

HAIM SHAPIRO

LIKE one of Marie Antoinette's courtiers, I go out to pick grapes with a basket on my arm, while a musical ensemble plays Mozart.

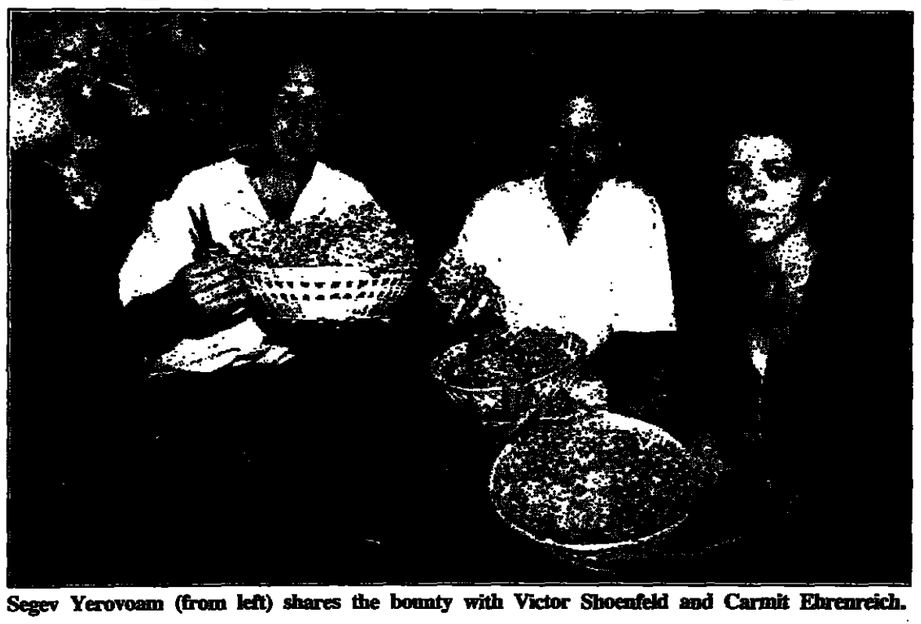
To whet my palate for the job, I drink a glass of the Yarden Gewuertztraminer, a light refreshing semi-dry wine typical of the Rhine Valley, made with white Riesling grapes.

Tiring of my labors after 15 minutes or so, I sit down to a splendid repast in the vineyards of Moshav Yonatan to mark the official opening of the Golan Heights Winery's six-week harvest season. With our dinner, we drink the Yarden Chardonnay, a white wine with all the character and nuances that one usually associates with red wines.

After dinner, we go to see how the real harvest works, with giant combines roaring down the rows of grapevines and stripping the grapes from the vine.

These days the harvest takes place at night, so that there is no chance of premature fermentation in the heat of the sun. From the vineyards, one can see the lights of Rosh Pina, Hatzor and Tiberias twinkling in the distance.

From the fields, the grapes go to a crusher in the winery at Katzrin, where the grapes are gently squeezed to extract the juice.



Segev Yerovoam (from left) shares the bounty with Victor Shoenfeld and Carmit Ehrenreich.

This year, according to managing director Segev Yerovoam, the winery expects to harvest about 3,200 tons of grapes, compared to 2,700 tons last year. By the year 2000, he says, without flinching, the harvest will reach 5,000 tons.

"We're holding this event to show that we are here," says Yerovoam.

During the past weeks and months, there have been recurring reports that the winery has drawn up contingency plans to relocate somewhere else in Israel if the Golan Heights are given up to Syria. The two sites mentioned most frequently are Galilee and the highlands around Arad. Segev denies the reports categorically.

Segev notes that, despite its relatively small area, 60 kilometers from north to south and an average of 20 kilometers from east to west, the Golan has marked differences in climate and geography, suitable for many varieties of top quality grapes. It is not possible, he says, to find another such area elsewhere in Israel.

Winemaker Victor Shoenfeld says that this year the winery has planted almost 200 dunams (50 acres) of new vineyards. It will take four years for these vineyards to bear grapes which can be used in making wine, he adds.

"I have trust in Assad's unwillingness to compromise," says Schoenfeld.

BACK AT the winery's newly expanded visitors' center, we sip Muscat, a sweet, heady, fortified wine, as Yerovoam holds forth about the wine industry. The demand for Yarden wines continues to grow, far beyond the supply, he says. Last year the winery sold some NIS 30 million worth of wine, with three-quarters going to the local market and one-quarter to export.

The winery, he says, will continue to expand, based on economic factors, irrespective of politics. If the planners had taken political considerations into account, he says, they might have stopped development long ago.

"Just think, if we had stopped expanding in 1991 or 1993, where would we be now?"

THE JERUSALEM POST TOY FUND

LITTLE HEARTS BREAK EASY



Imagine a child in a poor family, or in a home for orphans or the disabled. There's always a reason, it seems, for other kids to get presents: holidays, birthdays, achievements, or just for being good.

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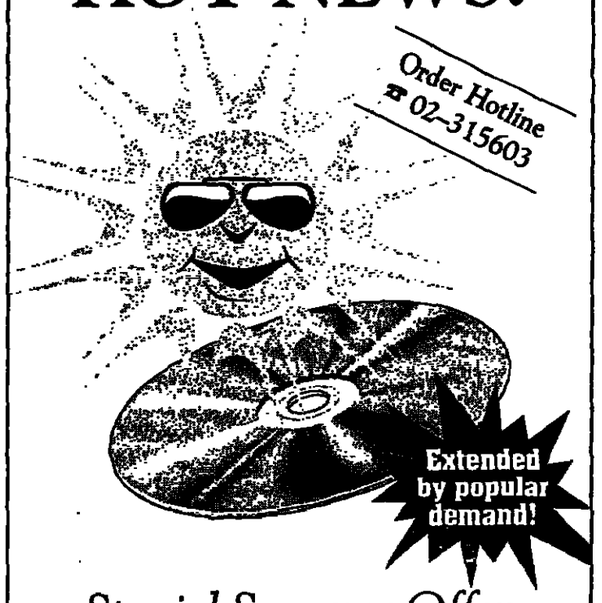
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THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

8 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1995

La Nationale shares drop 24%

NEIL COHEN and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

SHARES in La Nationale plunged 24% yesterday, following a 10% fall the previous day. Investors bailed out following the company's disastrous second quarter results, showing losses of more than NIS 45 million.

Before a run up in advance of the results the shares had been among the worst performers among major Mishtanim stocks, as investors were unsettled by the company changing its auditors and by questions over its accounting practices. Having achieved dramatic profit growth over the past few years, the company reported a sharp slowdown in profitability over the last two quarters.

However, La Nationale general manager Moshe Pereg said he is not unduly worried by the drop in the value of the company's shares during the last two days of trading and the insurance company's second quarter losses.

"La Nationale shares increased about 33% since the start of August and up until the publication of the company's results. THe 24% drop in the shares today [Tuesday] and the previous days 10% fall are not good, but I am not worried," said Pereg.

"La Nationale's share performance cannot be determined over a period of one or two days," he added. "So far, we have only published the company's first half results. I know what the company has in the pipeline and am not concerned."

The sharp drop in La Nationale"s earnings was due primarily to the life insurance sector, which experienced second-quarter losses of NIS 49.9m. compared with profits of NIS 16.88m. in 1994.

In the financial statements, management said the decline reflects a decision to make provisions of NIS 54m. for possible cancellations of kibbutz policies due to arrears in premiums. The losses also reflect lower sales and a decrease in commissions from reinsurance activities.

La Nationale is a subsidiary of Hadar Insurance, which is a subsidiary of the Phoenix Insurance Company.



La Nationale general manager Moshe Pereg.

UMB declares 5.4% profit growth

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

UNITED Mizrahi Bank completed the second quarter of 1995 with a 5.4 percent growth in net profits to NIS 28.8 million from NIS 27.3m.

In the first six months of the year, net earnings rose 0.1% to NIS 6.2m. from NIS 6.1m. Net return on equity increased to 9.3% on an annualized basis from 7.7% in all of 1994 and 10% in the first half of last year.

Key factors which contributed to the rise in second quarter earnings included a 11.6% growth in profits from financing operations before provision for doubtful debts, to NIS 187.5m. from NIS 168m. The earnings were affected by a rise in financial margins in the shekel sector, the difference between the actual and the known consumer price index and a growth in credit to the public.

The second quarter earnings were also positively influenced by a 4.3% drop in operating and other expenses, to NIS 190.9m. from NIS 199.6m.

The profits were partly offset by a 50% growth in provisions for doubtful debts, to NIS 25m. from NIS 16.7m. The rise was mainly due to larger provisions for loans to the agriculture sector.

In the second quarter operating and other income fell 8.4% to NIS 111m. from NIS 121.m. The decrease was due primarily to a lowering of the bank's capital market activities which led to a reduction in commission income from securities and larger provident fund redemptions.

The provision for taxes increased to NIS 45.7m. from NIS 38.3m.

Credit to the public increased 8.8% since the start of the year, to NIS 28.8b. Deposits from the public rose 6.3% to NIS 20.7b. The bank's total assets rose 4.3% to NIS 35.7b.

In the first six months of the year the bank's share in overseas subsidiaries losses fell to NIS 0.2m. losses from a loss of NIS 8.1m. in the corresponding period last year and a loss of NIS 28.7m. in all of 1994.

The losses were due to United Mizrahi Bank (Switzerland), which completed the first half with a net loss of SF 361,000 from a net profit of SF 583,000 in the same period last year. In the reported period, Mizrahi took measures to increase supervision and control on the Swiss subsidiary's senior management and also made structural changes in the bank.

United Mizrahi Bank Trust Company New York showed a net profit of $360,000 in the first six months, from a net loss of $2m. Management attributed the improvement to implementation of efficiency measures.

Two US firms weighing big Challenge Fund investments

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TWO large US financial institutions are considering making large investments in the Challenge Fund (Etgar), more than five weeks after the fund managers officially completed the three-month fund-raising phase.

The fund was established in June 1995 by Joseph Ciechanover, chairman of El Al and former president of PEC in New York and a member of the board of IDB. The aim of the fund is to invest in business in Israel and the Middle East.

To date, the fund has raised close to $100 million, about 75 percent from US entities and the remainder from Europe, some of whom have never previously invested in Israel.

Ciechanover is scheduled to give presentations of the fund's activities to two powerful US institutions during his visit to the US this week. One of the entities has invested in Israel in the past, while the other has not.

Sources close to Ciechanover said his agreement to give the entities presentations after the conclusion of the fund-raising stage is a sign the institutions are likely to make large investments in the fund. Ciechanover's acquaintance with the entities most likely goes back to when he served as president of PEC in New York.

Among the leading investors already invested in Challenge are Edgar Bronfman, chairman of the board of Seagram, Dwayne Andreas, chairman of Archer Daniels Midland, businessman Bruce Rappaport, Arie Genger, the owner of Haifa Chemicals, and Charles de Gunzburg of the Bronfman family.

Most of the fund's investors have expressed an interest in exercising their right to co-invest with the fund in projects which the fund managers will invest in, giving Challenge additional leverage.

In addition to Ciechanover the fund is run by Yair Shamir, in the past managing director of Scitex and until recently managing director of Elite.

The fund managers are currently looking at more than 50 potential investments in all areas of the economy. The managers aim to invest mainly in industrial and commercial private companies that have completed the product development or market-building stage and can show a positive cash flow and go public in a few years. Potential projects will be screened by external analysts, accountants and lawyers.

Challenge's target is to invest no more than 50% in any project so as to enable the project managers to remain controlling shareholders in the company. The fund will invest a minimum of $1m. in each project and have a representative on the board of directors of companies it is invested in.

Israel Chemicals records $22.1 million net loss

RACHEL NEIMAN

ISRAEL Chemicals yesterday announced a half year net loss of $22.1 million, including reorganization costs for subsidiaries Fertilizers and Chemicals and closure of ICL's Ramat Gan division. ICL pointed out that without including those costs, six-month net profits were $18.6m., as in the previous year.

Revenues for the six-month period were $677m. from $586m. in 1994. ICL recorded a $57.9m. one-time expenditure on the reorganization of Fertilizers and Chemicals which affected net profits by $38.5m.

Second quarter net losses were $32.3 from an $11.9m. net gain in the parallel period. Quarterly revenues were $336.9m. from $304.7m.

Research and development costs increased by 13%, mainly in pharmaceuticals and in research associated with the metallic magnesium plant constructed by Dead Sea Works.

In June ICL's board of directors decided to move company headquarters to Beersheba. The company expects to reduce its workforce, resulting in a one-time cost of $3.2m.

ICL's reorganization plan will divide the concern into three main groups: Dead Sea Works, Bromine and Rotem. In July the board decided that ICL Fine Chemicals will become part of the Bromine group.

ICL board chairman Shoul Eisenberg yesterday released a statement denying a *Yediot Aharonot* report that Fertilizers and Chemicals board chairman Haim Erez had retired following the release of disappointing second quarter results.

Indicators show economic growth is continuing

Post Business Staff

INFLATION is running at an annual rate of about 5 percent, while the economy continues to grow steadily, according to indicators published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The data show a continued rise in retail sales, the export of goods, tourism revenues, and the import of factory inputs in May, June, and July.

Before May, the indicators point to an increase in industrial production, and up to June to increased demand for building inputs. Imports of investment products were stable. The CBS said that, according to its indicators, the trade deficit has stabilized after the sharp growth between October and February.

The import of production inputs grew by 10% in July, following an increase of 20% in the previous three months. Investment by factories in new equipment and machinery was virtually unchanged, following moderate increases in the preceding four months. In May industrial production rose at an annualized rate of 13%, driven by a 39% rise in production at factories whose products are directed at the building industry. Industrial exports rose by 12% on an annualized basis in July.

Consumer durable imports moderated in July, rising by only 2%, as retail sales rose by 7% on an annualized basis.

PSINet to buy 33% of NetVision

RACHEL NEIMAN

PERFORMANCE Systems International (PSINet), NetManage, Elron, and NetVision yesterday announced that PSINet will acquire 33 percent of NetVision.

NetVision is Israel's largest Internet service provider.

"Israel is a world leader in producing Internet software," said William L. Schrader, PSINet president and CEO, who added the new relationship is expected to be formalized by the end of September.

A letter of intent between the four entities stipulates the purchase will be a stock-for-stock swap between PSINet, NetManage, and Elron, after which each will own one-third of NetVision.

The transaction is subject to a number of conditions, including negotiation, preparation, and execution of definitive agreements.

PSINet is an Internet network, which currently has points of placement (POPs) in 155 cities with a projected coverage of 225 cities by end 1995.

Netvision is an Israeli subsidiary of NetManage (Israel), a fully-owned subsidiary of NetManage (US), in which Elron owns a 2.8 percent share. NetManage develops, markets, and supports Chameleon, an integrated set of tools for Windows environment.

NetVision president and CEO Ruth Alon said the alliance now formed is expected "to take us to the next level in providing international Internet services."

In mid-May Elron and Netvision announced the beginning of a cooperative venture aimed at merging their activities as Internet providers.

Degem Systems posts second quarter net profits

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN

DEGEM Systems announced second quarter net profits of NIS 115,000 from NIS 630,000 in 1994. Quarterly revenues were NIS 20.6m. from NIS 22.98m.

Net losses for the half-year period were NIS 3.44m. from net gains of NIS 4.4m. in 1994. Revenues were NIS 40.29m. from NIS 51.7m.

• **Sano Bruno Enterprises** announced second quarter net profits of NIS 3m. from NIS 859,000. Revenues were NIS 38.13m. from NIS 33.9m. Earnings per share were NIS 0.25 from NIS 0.07.

Net profits for the six-month period were NIS 6.76m. from NIS 2.85 million in 1994. Quarterly net profits were NIS 69.3m. from NIS 65.85m. Earnings per share were NIS 0.55 from NIS 0.23.

• **NECA Chemicals** reported second quarter net profits of NIS 47,000 from NIS 835,000. Revenues were NIS 22.14m. from NIS 26.12m. Earnings per share were NIS 0.35 from NIS 5.90.

• **Feuchtwanger Industries** second quarter net profits were NIS 4.9m. from NIS 6.5m. in 1994. Revenues were NIS 84m. from NIS 65.86m. Earnings per share were NIS 1.87 from NIS 2.38.

• **Mario Laznik Construction** second quarter net profits were NIS 2.54m. from net losses of NIS 11.25m. Revenues were NIS 90m. from NIS 25.28m.

Half-year net profits were NIS 1.17m. from net losses of NIS 21.17m.

• **Spectronics** quarterly net losses were $145,000 from net losses of $536,000. Revenues were $1.4m. from $1.35m.

Government to sell 7.5% of its IDB stock

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE government will sell 7.5 percent of its shares in Israel Discount Bank through an offering on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange in November, according to MI Holdings, the government-owned company in charge of the bank sale process. The sale is expected to bring in about $100 million.

As part of the sale, the government will offer 0.75% of the shares to Discount Bank employees.

At the start of July, MI Holdings informed IDB of the of Finance Ministry's desire to sell the shares to the public as soon as possible. The bank, together with MI Holdings, is currently in the process of preparing a prospectus which will be submitted to the Securities Authority for approval.

The prospectus will include information concerning IDB's plans to sell a package of 60% of the share capital of Mercantile Discount Bank as a controlling unit. The sale is in accordance with the Ministry of Finance instructions from February, 1995.

IDB reported the second quarter with net profits of NIS 43.2 million, compared with NIS 54.9m. in the same period last year. Net return on equity on an annual basis increased to 8% compared with 6.7% in all of 1994.

Ministries fail to agree on opening of local markets to foreign foods

Post Business Staff

TALKS being conducted by the Industry and Trade, Finance, and Agriculture ministries on how to open the local market to competition from imports, as required by the multilateral trade agreements reached in the GATT's Uruguay Round, failed to reach a conclusion this week.

In the next few days, the Industry and Trade Ministry will present a proposal on opening the economy to foreign processed food products to the Interministerial Economics Committee.

The proposal seeks to prevent the competitiveness of Israeli companies from being harmed. In 1991, the government decided on a policy of gradually opening up the economy to foreign competition by reducing tariffs to 12 percent over a seven-year period. Processed agricultural products are still protected, however.

The ministries are in disagreement over how to include the agricultural component into the industrial products category.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (29.8.95)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	5.000	5.000	5.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.875	4.875	5.125
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.750	2.750	3.000
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.750	1.750	2.000
Yen (10 million yen)	–	–	–

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

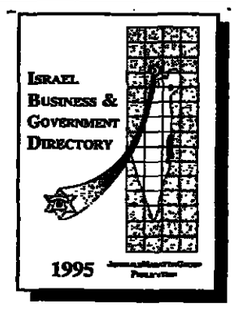
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (29.8.9)

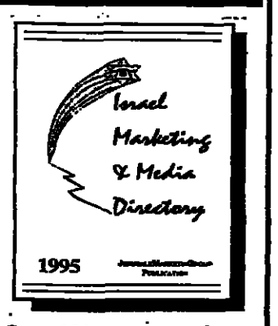
	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.4374	3.4929	—	—	3.4632
U.S. dollar	3.0251	3.0739	2.97	3.12	3.0480
German mark	2.0821	2.0954	2.02	2.13	2.0751
Pound sterling	4.8837	4.7593	4.80	4.83	4.7223
French franc	0.5078	0.5073	0.58	0.62	0.5021
Japanese yen (100)	3.1059	3.1588	3.05	3.20	3.1271
Dutch florin	1.8998	1.9695	1.80	1.90	1.8529
Swiss franc	2.5011	2.5415	2.45	2.58	2.5200
Swedish krone	0.4133	0.4200	0.40	0.43	0.4165
Norwegian krone	0.4705	0.4781	0.46	0.49	0.4741
Danish krone	0.5309	0.5395	0.52	0.55	0.5349
Finnish mark	0.6916	0.7029	0.67	0.72	0.6965
Canadian dollar	2.2547	2.2911	2.21	2.33	2.2709
Australian dollar	2.2644	2.3010	2.22	2.34	2.2833
S. African rand	0.8281	0.8595	0.74	0.84	0.8325
Belgian franc (10)	1.0021	1.0183	0.98	1.04	1.0091
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9305	2.9779	2.88	3.02	2.9509
Italian lira (1000)	1.8525	1.8824	1.82	1.91	1.8632
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.14	4.43	4.3282
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.88	0.94	0.9008
ECU	3.8567	3.9180	—	—	3.8838
Irish punt	4.7918	4.8691	4.70	4.94	4.8315
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4085	2.4474	2.36	2.49	2.4269

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Israel's High Tech Edge in Banking

Israel's emergence as a world banking center is the result of two factors:

a. A major reservoir of financial talent;
b. An obsession with maintaining the lead in the innovation of high tech banking and financial information services.

Nowhere is this more apparent than Mizrahi Bank which took the high tech lead early on, and has consistently pioneered new ways to enhance customer service through computerization.

Mizrahi was the first to provide on-line banking with fully networked terminals throughout its branches. It also pioneered ATMs in Israel, was first with computerized voice abswering services in four languages, and introduced home banking which enables customers to perform banking transactions and securities trading via PC.

Recently Mizrahi introduced CallBank™ and FaxBank™, allowing its customers to receive information by pre-arrangement or upon demand from any phone or fax in the world.

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Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	NIS 3.0480	0.00%
Sterling	NIS 4.7223	-0.22%
Mark	NIS 2.0751	-0.12%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	4608.09	+14.09
DJ Transport	1898.34	-8.86
DJ Utils	208.4	-0.86
DJ Comp	1587.98	-0.2
NYSE Indicat	376.55	+0.35
NYSE Transport	266.76	+0.04
NYSE Comp	300.86	+0.27
S&P 100	526.32	+1.33
S&P Spot Index	580	+0.95
AMEX Comp	528.39	-1.86

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Issues	+793	939	1215
Volume up (in 1000's)			129077
Volume down (in 1000's)			145797

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3502.6	22.3
Tokyo Nikkei average	18135.1	+287.9
Singapore all-share index	509.1	0
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	9152.89	+72.5
Kuwait index	152.58	-3.34

Israeli stocks in NY

NYSE / AMEX	Last	Change
Ave la Pap	54.25	0
Ampal A	6.75	+0
Arot	1.28125	+0.0625
BioTechnology	2.875	+0
Cannel Cont	13.875	+0.125
Frutarom (electrochem)	3.8125	0
Elscint	2.75	-0.125
Elz Lavud	9.375	-0.25
Elz Lavud A	9.25	+0
Lavgar T.	9.8977	-0.3125
PEC	26.75	0
Tadiran	23	+0.125
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
AG Associates	27.75	-1.75
Aladdin	16.25	-0.25
Accent	13.75	-0.5
ATN. Dimension	8.8125	-0.1875
BVR	9.75	-0.125
Converse	15.875	-0.375
Data (Defense)	16.125	-0.5
DSP Comm.	22.75	-0.375
ECI	19.75	-0.375
Edumetrics	1.5	-0.03125
Info-Scit	8.25	-0.125
Electric Fuel	9.75	+0.375
EFFI	53	-1.5
Elbit	22.75	+0.5
Elron	11.625	-0.0625
Ramad Robotec	0.75	0
M. Systems	4.75	+0.25
Gilat	24.875	-0.25
ISG	2.875	-0.125
Geotek	7.875	-0.5
Health Tech	1.625	+0
Idan	0.3125	+0
IIS	3.125	+0.125
Indigo	33	+0.75
Isramco	0.625	-0.03125
First Isr Fund	12.375	-0.125
Intek	0.25	+0
Lannet	24.625	-0.125
Lanoptics	15.5	+0.25
Magal	3.75	+0.0625
Made-At	1.25	0
Mercury	21.75	-0.375
Magic	8.5	-1
Opal	19.5	-0.25
Orbotech	11.75	+0
Oshap Tech	3	0
Pharmos	1.5625	-0.125
Rada	4.75	+0
Scitex	20.375	-0.125
Silicom	2.5	0
T.A.T. Technol	3.875	+0.0625
Taro Vit	7.375	-0.375
Teledata	9.375	-0.125
Telegraph	2	+0.375
Tower Semicond	30.5	-1.625
Teva	38.75	-0.375
TVG	1	-0.25

(All listings are closing quotes)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 29-AUG-95)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound:	spot	1.5426	-0.0054
	Sep.future (CME)	1.5426	-0.0062
D-mark:	spot	1.4784	+0.0084
	Sep.future (CME)	0.6779	-0.0054
S-franc:	spot	1.2167	+0.0068
	Sep.future (CME)	0.8233	-0.0063
Yen:	spot	98.04	+1.28
	Sep.future (CME)	0.0102233	-0.0001356
CanDlr:	spot	1.3407	+0.0017
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7459	-0.0011
AusDlr:	spot	0.7518	+0.0005
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7516	+0.0007
F-franc:	spot	5.0627	+0.0165
It Lire:	spot	1634	+1
Nlg:	spot	1.8534	+0.0105
AusSchg:	spot	10.345	-0.07
Rand:	spot	3.6606	+0.001
ECU:	spot	1.28975	+0.0063
Bonds	future	112.313	-0.21875
S and P	future	581	+1.5

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	5.875	-0.0312
Dollar	6 months	5.9062	-0.0313
Dollar	12 months	5.9062	-0.0938
Sterling	3 months	6.875	0
Sterling	6 months	6.875	0
Sterling	12 months	7	0
S-franc	3 months	2.8875	-0.0625
S-franc	6 months	2.9375	-0.0625
S-franc	12 months	3	0
D-mark	3 months	4.375	+0.0625
D-mark	6 months	4.375	+0.0625
D-mark	12 months	4.375	+0.0625
Yen	3 months	0.875	0
Yen	6 months	0.875	0
Yen	12 months	0.9375	0

(Spot market listings are from approximately 22:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 29-AUG-95)

Foreign financial data courtesy of

CommStock Trading Ltd.

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem,
Tel. 02-244963, 03-5758826
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INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

		Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (CEC)		1316	-29
Coffee (Sep) (CEC)		153	-0.9
Sugar no.11 (Oct) (CEC)		10.84	+0.18
Wheat (Sep) (CBOT)		434	-8.75
Orange juice (Sep)(CEC)		107.2	-1.2
Crude oil light (Oct)(CEC)		17.92	-0

London commodities

		Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (LCE)		915	-14
Coffee (Sep) (LCE)		2024	-1
Wheat (Sep)(LCE)		113.25*	+0.75
Brent crude oil (Oct)(IPE)		1619	+2

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold:	spot	382.45	-0.6
Silver:	spot	5.63	-0.09

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Aug)	382.4	-0.9
Silver (Sep)	5.519	-0.093
Platinum (Oct)	490.1	-3.4
Palladium (Sep.)	147.25	-1.85
High-grade copper (Sep)	1.348	-0.0025

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	383.25	+0.65
Gold PM fix	383	-0.1
Silver fix	5.68.5	+29.5
Platinum PM fix	432.5	+0.75

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from approximately 22:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 29-AUG-95)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
IndDevBK	21827	-2.3
IndDevDD		
IndDevPrD		
MerBC	159.00	
MerchantC		
OrIH	163958	2.5
Trade	534	1.2
TradeC	152.00	2.4

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	358233	
Camrel	701	-0.3
CamrCB	286	
FirstMB	45084	-3.5
IndeptMB	72169	
J IsrnC	126.50	0.4
JisrnBnk	506	-0.6
LeumiMBR	49110	-7.0
Mizrhv	7429	
TefahotR	180005	7.0

Financial Institutions Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
mivtahsha	1114	-1.0
Ayalon	484	2.5
AyalonC		
Elion	372	
ElsurC1	211	-1.4
Hachsr1	678	
Hadars	829	
HamahmrC	233	
Hamshmr1	1713	4.5
Hamshmr5	1587	0.3
Menorah1	983	0.2
Menorah5	981	
Phoenix1	2508	
Phoenix5	2382	
Sumer	736	
Zion5	10011	

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
hashamla	486	-2.6
Hishtau	984	-10.0
mivsys	2680	0.3
nisco	1944	0.5
ShezekW2	1.5	
BndWrtC1	133.00	
BndWrtC2	131.50	-0.8
BondWrtn L	3191	-0.3
CbigG.1	40028	-2.0
Clal Comp	8860	
ClalCmpC	197.00	0.8
CorBeach	1551	-1.8
Crystal	1582	2.7
DanHotl1	1877	
DCL	800	-2.0
Elad	118.00	-0.4
Feldman	224	
GanHador	228	
GanHadC	205	
GrainsC1	110.50	-0.5
GrainsW2	73.50	2.1
HGSC1	139.00	-1.1
HGSW1	73.00	-3.5
HGtl1	458	-1.1
Inrgsmar1	2563	-7.0
Inrgsmar5	2564	-0.5
Lipo	1716	-2.0
Melli	1021	0.8
Mediach	480	0.2
MediechW	882	7.1
MLLC1	162.50	
MLL1	251	-0.4
Plasac	1048	-2.5
Reshet	84.00	3.7
ReshetC1	113.50	
Telrom	2220	-2.8
TelromC1	158.50	
Telsys	1223	
Topline	284	-1.4
Yaad	777	4.0
YaadC1	124.00	-1.2
Yaana	1778	-1.3
Yadar1	1284	0.2
Yona	600	

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
ashotashk	143.60	
Imco	525	-1.5
solog	551	-0.2
wiliger	109.50	
yehodasit	580	-0.5
AclaresC	124.50	-0.4
Allenso	1260	2.2
Alony	341	
Alumit11L	11820	
Angel	9075	
Argoman	549	20.9
Aryt	376	0.3
ArytC1	58.50	
Ashply	3339	
Ashplyc1	184.00	
Ashtrom	656	
Atzmon	445	
AtzmonW1	104.00	8.8
Azimuh	439	-0.2
Belmgh	557	2.0
Boulo	228	-5.0
BoulosC1	199.00	-3.4
CablesC3	134.50	
CablesW3	277	4.1
Carsllins	487	3.3
Cargal	1184	-1.0
Castro	1486	
Cham	362	-0.8
ClalSysC	258	
ClalSys.1	2287	
Clisd CB	187.00	1.6
DydomN1	5377	-5.5
Dydomn6	4055	
DydynC1	195.50	1.2
DydynC2	188.00	-0.5
Elchrnc1	188.50	
Elchrn1	2001	8.0
ElecDsign	408	4.9
Delta 1	1605	-0.5
Delta9	1566	-0.5
DubekB	14564	
DubekR	14648	-1.2
ElderTec	47.50	-0.2
Elcolnd	7000	
Elctmcs	822	-1.6
Elsir 0.5	6619	
ElscrG4	292	
ElsrdElctc	442	-1.8
Evrot	563	
Fertbz5	788	-24.0
Fertil0.1	970	-10.0
FrischrW1	9218	
Fte 1	444	1.1
FrutarC1	218	1.4
FrutarC2		
GibonC1	85.00	-1.0
GibonSub	305	3.0
GibonW2	125.50	-10.0
Golan	1099	3.0
Hatshot1	368	
Hatshot5	178.00	
Hzd	434	
Hzfl	258	-0.8
IsrCarr1	3279	1.0
Jet-ons	1017	-2.2
Kelsenyr1	271	-4.9
Kedem	6999	
KedemC2	190.50	
Keter	534	
KlsmC1	140.50	-0.4
Klil	2495	
Kbls	2333	-2.0
Lipsil	3127	0.6
Lodzia1	1234	4.0
Lodzia4	1179	
LuhotGel	106.00	-9.8
MacPell	268	-0.4
Magam	548	1.7
Maxtmr1	1299	
Maxtmr5	1298	
Mel Edan	1440	-1.9
Modgal	975	-0.2
Mcrolitc1	713	1.3
Mizrahc5	648	
MtcyCerum	458	
NelsAstr1	369	2.0
Nelsastr5	823	2.5
Nevtot	1343	-2.0
Nlon1	2214	0.3
NMC	815	4.1
Oils	695	4.7
Ophir	358	
Orbit1	333	-1.8
Orlita	453	-0.2
PackerW2	9120	
PezOhen	483	-1.8
Plta	1179	2.3
PolgatA	272	1.9
PolgatC1	188.00	0.5
Polygon	539	
PolygonC	170.50	
PTC	732	-2.5
Rabintex	130.00	-8.4
RabinteW	33.00	
Ramtlcrl	219	-4.4
Sanot1	1690	
Sanot5	1607	
Sefan	681	-0.4
Shamen	15303	-2.0
Spcrax	382	
Stmfrost	5888	-4.0
Tasi	945	4.9
Tadiran	868	
Tambour	981	-0.5
Taste	607	
Tedea	1886	-1.0
TevaC		
Tly	582	5.1
Toblan	468	4.1
Topper	118.00	
TATC1	188.50	-1.0
TAT1	650	0.9
Unitar1	1011	
Unitar5	365	-1.1
Vtalgn1	270	
Vulcan	230	
VulcanC	172.50	0.3
Wardmcn	17403	1.0
WardmW3	6316	
YtongC2	397	
Zahavi	277	
Zilka1	1983	
Zilka5	1718	-1.5
Zilkt1	3654	0.5
ZivtS	3257	1.0
ZivnCab1	331	-0.7
Zivnstn0	457	-0.2

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	%chg
buildpro	588	-2.5
jacobshr	293	1.8
rawad	344	-3.6
tzarfati	488	
watbon	80618	
y.sarig	151.00	-1.9
Alrov	1808	-8.0
Amrdm	370	
Amrdm C1	182.50	
Arkdan1	1488	-1.5
Asala	1276	-1.5
AsalaC4	139.50	
AsalaW2	81.50	-9.9
Assuta	1098	
AssutaC1	226	-3.0
AzorpC1	270	-0.4
AzorPrep	518	-2.1
Berano1	772	2.0
Beyalie5	34822	-3.0
BeyalieC1	35100	-1.0
BeitYelav	1881	
BeitYelvW1	164.50	-49.7
BeitYhavC	91.00	
BldgRes	2777	
CohenDev	841	-3.6
Concrete	1483	
DankGser	1838	
DankGserC	187.00	0.8
Derad1	171.00	-2.0
Dunbar	5123	
Engel	592	
Elscit	574	2.5
GoldHous	300	
GldHousC	186.50	
Hamasf1	1349	
Ispro	3518	-2.0
Jerallcon	2129	-5.0
JerelcomC	224	
IsraCt1	197.50	
Israel1.5	5466	
Israel	6328	
Jeysalcn1	136.50	
Jordan	558	-3.0
LazrdG1	106.50	
Lazrick	275	
Lblsh5	173.00	3.3
Lusal1	3000	
MalBurC2	125.50	
MalBurt	911	0.2
MalLuxC2	98.00	1.0
MalLuxW3	100.00	-17.0
Mlmtrv	10682	-0.2
Mlchmsl	186.00	5.1
MTM	1871	-1.5
NeotAviv	1338	-10.0
OdlC1	131.50	
OdlW1	2385	
Olmdale	823	
Oz	301	1.3
Pargod	1485	-4.0
PrOr	6194	2.0
RedSea	547	-2.3
RogovInt.	1442	
RogovInS	1301	-1.0
Rotem	412	2.0
Shalead	483	-2.1
Tashtiz	834	-5.0

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
darban1	2310	
Ibya	1118	0.5
Ackerl	1288	1.8
AckersC2	1309	-3.0
AlrarC	526	2.5
Ampa	129833	-2.0
Arad	5088	
Azr aC2	171.50	-2.3
Berurn1	1697	
Baruch5	846	
Clal60	6069	
DanberC	228	
Danber1	2850	3.3
Elgar	157.00	-5.1
EdgarnC2	139.00	5.4
Elam	3846	-2.0
Emah	173.50	
EnpronC4	228	
Gshalot	7169	-1.0
Hersan	2175	2.5
Hlton	389	
HltonW4	212	
Hiron5	9353	
Ikcal	1132	
IDLC8	183.50	
IDLC1	157.00	-0.9
JoelC1A	162.00	
Kerclan1	388	-10.0
Klal	296	-16.0
Magor1	2089	
Magors	1921	-3.6
Mofet	482	-0.8
Otsr	14823	1.0
Paras0.1	1071	
Rim1	348	-4.7
Rim4	305	-7.9
SelterDev	2101	
Secutis	1670	-8.7
SecuritC	184.50	
SecuritW	280	-19.8
SAPANHASP	1108	-0.7
TayeC	299	-0.4
TaurC1	180.50	
TaurSHasr	83.50	2.7
Unico	6857	

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
MGN1	2087	

PARALLEL LIST Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
atrsrhtl	662	-2.0
arida	1433	
gltisk	580	
Mdns.	159.00	-1.8
Ilasbarss	186.50	-2.0
radwashl	218	
tsn	451	-0.4
AdanW1	685	
Comsec	549	-4.2
Dalint	2.90	
Damel	1432	2.5
Data	1039	
Ellech	384	-9.0
Greenbrg	306	-3.8
ILDCHOT	457	2.6
Kind	107.00	2.9
Kopel	208	-2.9
KoppICt	168.50	-0.3
MZPK	595	
Nirun1	798	
Regency Ho	139.00	
TrendLin	1182	

Property, Building

Name	Price	%chg
a.dori	251	
alonhatz	85.50	
gstindor	163.00	-6.1
Hendor	468	
Adler	210	
Bar—Tzrr1	1937	
Cassse1	6271	
Danly	885	-1.3
DeadW1	293	
GzolCt1	294	
ICP5	24033	
Lazarich	376	
Lusalrt	665	0.6
Mollerom	1187	
Resaco	1948	
Scandia	95.50	
ScandiaC	101.00	
UnicomGn	164.50	
Unicom1	92.00	-4.2
Unicom5	102.00	0.5

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
abcodisgn	90.50	-4.2
acdcorisgn	376	-8.0
Ipcasc	1889	
masrivhld	941	-2.0
phyton	308	0.3
relchart	449	
rechem	959	
rotnsusr	554	-1.2
vtexbrtr	92.50	
zimmetal	1753	0.2
Adumim1	346	-0.6
Brosh1	240	
Dexter	1278	1.3
Elsam	182.50	-1.1
Gail	177.50	
King1	482	
LaNish1	2885	-0.5
ManC1	153.00	1.3
Mant	170.00	-2.0
MLT	1488	-0.3
Neca	29483	
NecaG1	201	
Ossza	294	0.9
OsraSC	90.50	0.6
OsraPrst	1841	3.0
Polisr1	652	3.0
Poseidon	82.50	-2.3
Shtadot	117.00	-3.7
Thrivsel	312	

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
Ibtar	613	-3.0
marathon	74.50	-0.7
Atlan	1677	-0.2
Elsyon	58291	
Mirage	113.00	1.3
Optibus	144.50	0.3
Regent1	332	
Yiesum	80.00	

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
Alpe	10.50	2.9
Avner	2.60	-3.3
DIKOEx1	2247	
Naphtha	22.80	-4.6

Two-sided trading

Name	AFTERNOON Price	% Change	Volume Shares	MORNING Price	% Change	Volume Shares
electrac	3369	3.2	13800	3345	2.5	18897
nacionel	500	-24.7	287000	505	-23.9	69883
Actcrtin	521	-1.0	50000	525		24979
Afrls 0.	400828	3.2	295	394034	1.5	58
Afrlsr	368773	2.5	354	358722	0.3	80
Agan	5125	0.2	3150	5112		5623
Agis	2535	0.7	24000	2503	-0.5	7247
Azorim	4044		4500	4044		5857
ALPM	16336		9800	16396		1371
Baran	2582	-0.5	1600	2582	-0.5	9615
Bezek	839	-1.0	300000	831		107999
Cables	1829	-1.0	35100	1838	-0.5	16585
Clal Ele	35762		700	35762		1444
Clal Tra	725		5000	725		33180
Clal 10	8340	0.7	16000	8299	0.3	5140
Clalins	1471	1.0		1471	1.0	47098
Clalsr 5	2167	0.5	6300	2156		4350
Clinda	1882	1.0	71000	1863		52330
CoOp	1870		1000	1870		18808
Danber 5	2749	2.5	6400	2736	2.0	6886
Dead Sea	885	3.0	78000	859	2.3	29883
Degemr1	1068	4.2	34000	1023		
Delek	8791		4800	8791		3712
DevtMB	20002	0.5		20002	0.5	515
Discinv	19926	3.7	19800	19734	2.7	4891
Elbit	22553	3.2	7680	22538	3.0	2935
Elco	13061	1.5	1290	13061	1.5	2984
Elite 5	1290	-8.2	140400	1333		
Elron	11626	0.5	16820	11568		4419
Evergr n	2246	-5.7		2246	-5.7	1148
Export	1470	-1.5	2400	1470	-1.5	8100
FeuchtW5	6899	-7.0	95500	7203		
Fibi	45248	1.2	480	45359	1.5	1546
Formula	1678	2.2	15600	1641		26421
FrstInt1	37902	1.2	540	37621	0.5	340
FrstInt5	37135	0.7	1600	36859		150
Frutarom	1183	0.7	15000	1186	1.0	14719
General	9309		800	9309		2126
Granit	511	-0.5	3500	514		8528
Hapoalim	513	0.5	268000	510		82497
Haploim	9319	0.2	1400	9319	0.2	3440
IndBldg	442	-1.0	4000	442	-0.9	101122
Isramco	2.5	-6.0	2400000	2.5	-7.4	3632180
IsrCorp1	23823		580	23823		1308
IsrCorp5	22921		1200	22921		175
IsChem	225	2.0	784000	222	0.5	404988
IDB	1077	2.0	189000	1077	2.0	63187
IDBDev	5507	2.0	14950	5486	1.2	4864
ILDC	1034	-5.5	83000	1039	-5.0	59167
JEC	1154	0.7	26000	1145		35550
JOEL	98.0	-10.0	350000	98.0	-10.1	
KardanS	395	-3.2	18000	396	-3.0	203318
Kitan	812			812		15000
Kocr	27832	0.5	11830	27832	0.5	2826
Leumi	435	1.0	279000	435	0.9	290880
Lilshir1	299	0.5	104000	298		121406
Makhteh	1748	0.2	11000	1744		7349
Malibu5	888	-1.5	7500	888	-1.6	11618
Maman	778	-0.2	2000	778	-0.3	44789
Mart1	1713	1.0	15000	1713	1.0	9630
Meshov	449	-5.0	16000	451	-4.7	51307
Mehadrin	7921	-0.7	800	7901	-1.0	1957
MelrEzra	1404	-5.0	9000	1382	-6.5	7449
Mishkan	33445	2.0	500	33189	1.3	714
Mivtah	1574	0.7	8400	1562		3592
Multilock	1147	0.2	3000	1144		12267
NatolDS	5.3	0.7	2450000	5.3		1208381
Ocil	8126	3.7	4250	7832		
Ormat	604	-1.2	9000	604	-1.3	21054
Osem	2475	0.7	11900	2457		8249
PezolBEx	603	1.5	52500	603	1.5	164179
Pecker	14932	0.2	480	14895		2393
Pericias	2247	0.5	10800	2236		15515
Petrchem	1795	1.2	26000	1782	0.5	24793
Pityon	9898	-1.5	720	9898	-1.5	1418
PolgatB	298	2.5	98000	293	1.4	99364
Rogosin	2918	-3.5	5500	2933	-3.0	3800
Secom	350	0.7	45000	347		34807
SelaPump	94.0	-4.7	45000	94.0	-4.6	138012
Shilon	11003	1.0	400	11003	1.0	3118
Steel	318	-1.2	12000	319	-0.9	53586
SupersB	6146	1.0	5100	6131	0.8	4214
TefahotB	181774		83	181774		28
Tempo1	1351	0.7	12000	1348	0.5	13463
Teva	113833	2.7	1905	112804	2.0	922
TAT5	340	1.0	40000	340	0.9	69678
Urdan 0.	456	1.5	8000	456	-1.5	38976
Ytong	973		8000	973		30127

SOURCE: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK — THE PEOPLE YOU CAN TALK TO.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Name	Price	chg

NEW YORK

Name	Price	chg
AMP Inc	40.5	-0.25
AMR Corp	71.375	-0.25
ASA	42.875	-0.125
Abbott Labs	38.625	+0.25
Acme Cleveland	25	-0.125
Advanced Micro	33.125	+0.875
Aetna Life	65.625	+1.375
Affiliated Publ	6.125	+0
Aflac	39.875	-0.125
Ahmanson (HF)	22.875	+0
Air Prods	63.375	-0.375
Alberto-Culv B	28.75	-0.25
Albertson's	31.25	+1
Alcan Aluminum	34.625	+0
Alco Standard	78.375	-0.125
Alex & Alex	23.125	-0.125
Alleghany Power	24.5	+0.125
Allied Signal	43.875	-0.5
Alcoa	89.5	+0.875
Amax	35.625	+0
Amdahl Corp	9.0625	+0
Amerada Hess	48.25	+0
Amer Brands	42.625	-0.125
Amer El Power	34.125	-0.25
Amer Express	40.375	-0.1875
Amer Gen Corp	34.75	-0.125
Amer Greetng	30.5	-0.125
Amer Home Pr	77.75	-0.5
Amer Int'l	79.5	+1
Amer Med Inc	57.5	+0.5
Amer Stores	23.25	+0.5
Amer T & T	56.375	+0.875
Ameritech	50.625	+1
Ametek Inc	17.625	-0.125
Amoco	63.5	+0.125
Analog Devices	33.75	-0.5
Anheuser-Busch	57.375	+0.5
Aon Corp	38.625	+0.5
Apple Computer	49.125	+0.125
Archer Daniels	18.375	-0.25
Arrco	8.25	+0.25
Armstrong World	57.75	+1.125
Asarco	33.375	+0.875
Ashland Oil	32.75	+0
AST Research	13.8625	-0.1875
Atlantic Richfld	110	-0.125
Auto Data Pro	64.375	-0.375
Autodesk	44.25	+0.5
Avery Dennison	40.25	+0.25
Avnet Inc	50.375	+0.625
Avon Products	70.375	+0
Baimco Corp	4.875	-0.125
Baker Hughes	21.375	+0.5
Ball Corp	34.125	+0.625
Bally	12	+0.125
Baltimore Gas	28.25	+0
Banc One Corp	34.125	+0.25
Bancorp	58.75	+0
Bandag Inc	58.75	+0
Bank of Boston	44.5	+0.375
Bank of New Yk	43.5	-0.25
Bankers Trst NY	68.875	-1
Barnett Banks	57.875	+0.75
Battle Mount Gd	10.125	+0
Bausch & Lomb	40	-0.5
Baxter Intl	38.875	+0.5
Becton Dickinson	58.375	+0
Bell Atlantic	69.625	+0
Bell Industries	21.5	-0.125
BellSouth	67.875	+0.625
HA Belo Corp	34.25	+0.375
Beneficial Corp	71.5	-0.125
Berkshire

Graf, Agassi breeze into second round

NEW YORK (AP) – After sputtering for one set, top-seeded Steffi Graf got her game together and trampled Amanda Coetzer 6-7(1-7), 6-1, 6-4 yesterday to move into the second round of the US Open.

In men's action, top seeded Andre Agassi of the US, beat fellow American Bryan Shelton, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.

Graf was playing for the first time since losing to Coetzer in her opening match at the Canadian Open two weeks ago.

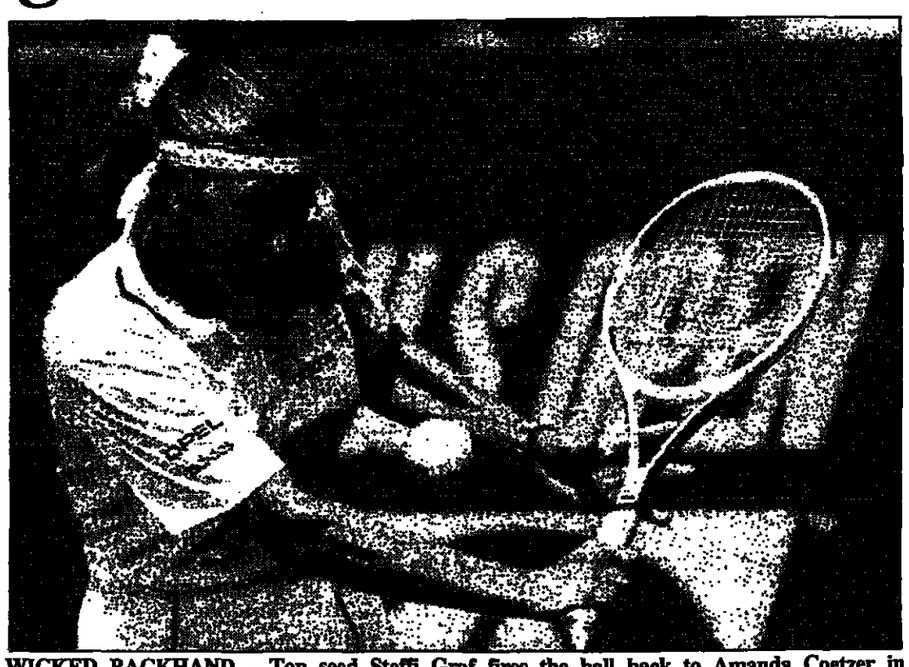
At first, it appeared Graf would umble again. Her game was uncharacteristically filled with errors. But, Coetzer also made a bundle of errors and needed nine set points to take the lead.

The match was exactly one hour old and Graf was in danger of becoming the first No. 1 seeded woman to fall in the first round since seedings began in 1922.

But Graf found the range on her groundstrokes, especially her big forehand, and Coetzer began to hit more errors than winners. The three-time US Open champion ripped through the second set and appeared to be in high gear as she took a 5-1 lead in the third.

Coetzer, however, wasn't finished. In a show of determination and baseline tennis, she fought back, moving Graf from side to side, changing speeds and spins. Three straight games Coetzer won, pulling to 4-5.

It was Graf who finally prevailed on the Louis Armstrong Stadium court, closing it out on her second match point. But Coetzer had kept her on the court for 2 hours, 15 minutes – usually a week's worth of matches for the German right-hander.



WICKED BACKHAND – Top seed Steffi Graf fires the ball back to Amanda Coetzer in yesterday's match. (Reuter)

One seeded player did fall. Austrian Barbara Paulus eliminated No. 13 Iva Majoli of Croatia 6-4, 6-4.

In other matches involving seeded players yesterday, No. 7 Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia defeated Jeff Tarango, playing in his first match since being defaulted at Wimbledon, 6-0, 6-4, 7-5 and No. 13 Marc Rosset of Switzerland stopped Italy's Andrea Gaudenzi 6-7(3-7), 6-3, 6-1, 6-0.

On Monday, Monica Seles made a triumphant return to the US Open with a display of hard-hitting tennis, needing only 56 minutes to trample Ruxandra Dragomir of Romania 6-3, 6-1 in her first-round match.

"I was nervous," Seles said of her first match at the National Tennis Center since she captured the women's singles title in 1992. "I was just real nervous that I was going to play the Open."

Sidelined since being stabbed during a tournament in April 1993, Seles returned to the sport two weeks ago in Toronto, winning the Canadian Open. She hasn't lost a match at the US Open since falling in the third round in 1990.

Dragomir, who had never played Seles before, was impressed.

"She is unbelievable," the Romanian said. "I couldn't even imagine that she is that good."

Andre Agassi, the defending men's champion and No. 1 seed, followed Graf onto Stadium Court, taking on Bryan Shelton, whose only two ATP Tour titles have come on grass at Newport, Rhode Island.

Also scheduled to play yesterday was No. 2 Pete Sampras, who won here in 1990 and 1993.

Other matches scheduled for yesterday involving seeded players pit No. 4 Conchita Martinez against Kathy Rinaldi-Stunkel, No. 5 Novotna against Sandra Cecchini, No. 7 Kimiko Date against Silke Meier, No. 10 Lindsay Davenport against Petra Kamstra, No. 11 Anke Huber against Yayuk Basuki, No. 12 Natasha Zvereva against Jana Kandarr and and No. 14 Mary Joe Fernandez against Judith Weisner.

Seles appeared to be in a hurry to get into the next round when she finally got on Stadium Court. She took no time between serves, and was always waiting for Dragomir to settle down for the next point to begin. She said it was nerves.

"Today is very different obviously because it is the first time you are going out there to play at the Open," Seles said. "I mean, there is so much excitement, so much nervousness.

"I went out there just trying to focus on the ball, and I wasn't focusing on the ball. I was hitting them as they were coming. I was missing them as they were coming. I had no plans."

All the time she talked, she smiled, obviously pleased to be back on a tennis court and playing in a Grand Slam tournament. But her nervousness showed in her giggling and in the way she constantly drummed with her left hand.

"Tonight, I was having fun, but ... my face was so serious," Seles said. "I said, 'Relax, Monica, your face, you are so tight.' My muscles were just like so tight. But that is normal, I think. As the matches go on, I will be more relaxed."

Zohar, Nimni axed for Slovakia game

ORI LEWIS

ISRAEL national team coach Shlomo Scharf has dropped two Maccabi Tel Aviv stalwarts from the 18-man squad that will travel to Slovakia for the European championship group one qualifier in Kosice on September 6.

Announcing his line-up yesterday, Scharf gave no reason for axing the two midfielders, Itzik Zohar and Avi Nimni.

But it appears he was not impressed by their performances in Maccabi Tel Aviv's 1-0 home defeat by Grasshoppers of Zurich in the European champions' league qualifying round last week.

Israel must beat Slovakia in order to stay in with a chance of qualifying for the finals in England next year.

Among the players called up is veteran Tottenham Hotspur striker Ronny Rosenthal, despite his lack of form and match practice.

Gadi Brumer of Maccabi Tel Aviv and David Amsalem of Betar Jerusalem have been recalled in place of Nimni and Zohar, neither was included in the squad which beat Hungary 2-0 in a friendly match in early August.

Scharf may be pinning his hopes on the 21-year-old Brumer. The Maccabi Tel Aviv player had an excellent debut turnout for the national team last May when he was named the outstanding player in Israel's 2-1 loss to Brazil at Ramat Gan. He also scored Israel's first-ever goal against the World Cup holders.

The squad is still largely comprised of Maccabi Haifa players, eight of whom are in the 18 to travel to Slovakia.

Another notable omission still is Ronnen Harazi. The Betar Jerusalem striker is still out of action, recovering from a sever stomach-muscle strain.

Squad:
Goalkeepers – Bossie Ginsberg (Bnei Yehuda), Rafi Cohen (Maccabi Haifa)
Defenders – Felix Haifon (Hapoel Haifa), Avishai Jamo (Maccabi Haifa), Amir Shefah (Maccabi Tel Aviv), Nir Klinger (Maccabi Tel Aviv), Alon Harazi (Maccabi Haifa), Moshe Glam (Maccabi Haifa)
Midfielders – Gadi Brumer (Maccabi Tel Aviv), David Amsalem (Betar Jerusalem), Tal Banin (Hapoel Haifa), Alon Hazan (Maccabi Haifa), Roanie Levy (Maccabi Haifa), Haim Revivo (Maccabi Haifa), Eyal Berkowitz (Maccabi Haifa)
Forwards – Eli Driks (Maccabi Tel Aviv), Ofer Mizrahi (Maccabi Herzliya), Ronnie Rosenthal (Tottenham Hotspur).

SPORTS BRIEFS

Israel wins in volleyball

Israel beat Sweden in men's volleyball yesterday, 15-9, 4-15, 15-7, 15-11 at the University Games in Fukuoka, Japan. *AP*

Arsenal draws Nottingham Forest

Summary of last night's English Premier League soccer match: Arsenal 1 (David Platt 41st minute), Nottingham Forest 1 (Kevin Campbell 63rd). Halftime 1-0. *Reuter*

England names team for Colombia friendly

LONDON (AP) – England coach Terry Venables yesterday named his squad for the September 6 friendly at Wembley against Colombia:

David Seaman, Arsenal; Tim Flowers, Blackburn; Rob Jones, Liverpool; Gary Neville, Manchester United; Tony Adams, Arsenal; Steve Howey, Newcastle; Gary Pallister, Manchester United; Graeme Le Saux, Blackburn; Stuart Pearce, Nottingham Forest; Steve McManaman, Liverpool; David Platt, Arsenal; Robert Lee, Newcastle; Jamie Redknapp, Liverpool; David Batty, Blackburn; John Barnes, Liverpool; Paul Gascoigne, Glasgow Rangers; Dennis Wise, Chelsea; Teddy Sheringham, Tottenham; Peter Beardsley, Newcastle; Nick Barmby, Middlesbrough; Stan Collymore, Liverpool; John Salako, Coventry; Alan Shearer, Blackburn.

SCOREBOARD

LONDON (Reuter) – Scores at the close of the first day of four-day English County Championship cricket matches on yesterday:

At Worcester: Somerset 267-6 after 84 overs (P.Holloway 74, G.Rose 53) v Worcestershire. At Trent Bridge: Hampshire 198-4 after 90 overs (P.Whitaker 66 not out) v Nottinghamshire. At Uxbridge: Northamptonshire 237-3 after 85.5 overs (R.Bailey 98 not out, R.Montgomerie 50) v Middlesex. At Chelmsford: Essex 315-9 after 86 overs (M.Waugh 113 not out, G.Gooch 68) v Derbyshire. At The Oval: Surrey 221 in 57.5 overs (G.Thorpe 61, A.Hollioake 51; G.Chapple 4-44). Lancashire 39-0 after 14.5 overs. At Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Gloucestershire – No play because of rain.

At Leicester: Leicestershire v Glamorgan – No play because of rain.

Israel bowlers beat Scotland

NORMAN SPIRO

IN sweltering summer weather, Scotland's world champion women's lawn bowls team found its Israeli counterpart "too hot to handle."

In convincing style, Israel won the third Test at Ra'anana over the weekend to wrap up the series 3-0. Israel's squad surprised their supporters and shocked their opponents with a consistent all-round world class performance. Merle Swerdlow won her third consecutive singles, 25-20 against single champion Sarah Gourlay.

Rene Kusman and Carmel Scop, after losing their first two encounters, played supurbly to peel 16-all, after trailing 4-13 at the tenth end. Their opponents were Gourlay and the experienced Frances Whyte.

Maureen Hirschowitz, in the form that had won her two South-African masters titles, skipped her triples team of Swerdlow, Isobel Myers, and fours team of Kusman, Scop and Myers, to an unbeaten record in the series.

Both teams won their final matches: 15-12 in the triples and 22-20 in the fours.

Murray, Indians rout Blue Jays

CLEVELAND (AP) – Eddie Murray homered and singled during a seven-run second inning Monday night, powering the Cleveland Indians past the Toronto Blue Jays 9-1, for its fifth straight win.

Murray led off the big inning with his 16th home run, then capped it with a two-run single that finished Giovanni Carrara (1-4). The home run was the 474th of Murray's career, one away from tying Stan Musial and Willie Stargell for 16th place.

Paul Sorrento and Manny Ramirez also homered, and Kenny Lofton had four hits for Cleveland.

Winner Chad Ogea (7-3) gave up one run and seven hits in 5⅔ innings, walking two and striking out three.

Royals 4, Yankees 3

Jeff Montgomery got Ruben Sierra to ground into a game-ending double play with the bases loaded, preserving the win for Kansas City.

The Royals, who played at home Sunday and were scheduled to play at home again yesterday, made a one-day trip to New York to make up a game wiped out by the delayed start of the season. The Yanks lost for the ninth time in 10 games.

Montgomery earned his 24th save, and dropped to the Yankees to 0-49 when trailing after eight innings, by inducing Sierra's grounder. Sierra earlier had hit a solo home run and RBI single.

Dilson Torres (1-1) got his first win in the majors. Jack McDowell (11-10) pitched a nine-hit complete game.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Cubs 7, Braves 5

Sammy Sosa hit a pair of two-run homers and scored three times as host Chicago ended Atlanta's seven-game winning streak.

Jaime Navarro (12-5) allowed six hits and had a career-high nine strikeouts in 7⅓ innings.

Randy Myers pitched the final 1⅓ innings to reach 30 saves for the fourth time in his career.

Steve Avery (6-10) allowed five runs and 11 hits in six innings. His two losses are Atlanta's only two in nine games against Chicago this season.

Marlins 6, Astros 4

Florida came from behind twice and extended their home winning streak to 14 games.

Quilvio Veras scored twice and drove in two runs for the Marlins, who completed a four-game sweep. Houston has now lost 11 in a row, a club record.

Dave Weathers (4-5) got the win in relief of Marc Valdes who was making his major league debut.

Doug Brocail (4-3) allowed 10 hits and five runs in 3⅓ innings.

MONDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Cleveland 9, Toronto 1
Kansas City 4, New York 3
Minnesota 4, Texas 3 (10)
Chicago 6, Milwaukee 5

MONDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Chicago 7, Atlanta 5
Cincinnati 5, St. Louis 2
Florida 6, Houston 4
Colorado 6, Pittsburgh 3

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	70	43	.619	–
Baltimore	54	59	.478	16
New York	54	59	.478	16
Toronto	49	63	.438	20.5
Detroit	46	66	.411	23.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	77	35	.688	–
Milwaukee	58	55	.513	19.5
Kansas City	55	58	.495	21.5
Chicago	48	63	.432	28.5
Minnesota	40	72	.357	37

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
California	67	47	.588	–
Texas	59	55	.518	8
Seattle	57	56	.504	9.5
Oakland	55	60	.478	12.5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	72	40	.643	–
Philadelphia	59	55	.518	14
Montreal	54	59	.478	18.5
Florida	51	60	.459	20.5
New York	49	63	.437	23

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	71	41	.634	–
Houston	57	56	.504	14.5
Chicago	56	57	.496	15.5
St. Louis	48	66	.421	24
Pittsburgh	47	66	.416	24.5

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	60	54	.526	–
Colorado	59	55	.518	1
San Diego	55	57	.491	4
San Francisco	52	61	.460	7.5

Beckham shines in Man. United win

LONDON (Reuter) – A goal by midfielder David Beckham gave Manchester United some measure of revenge over the side that supplanted it when they sent Premier League champion Blackburn plunging to its third defeat in six days on Monday night.

Beckham, the 20-year-old thrown in at the deep end by manager Alex Ferguson as the replacement for Andrei Kanchelskis, netted his second of the season mid-way through the second half to give United a fully-deserved 2-1 away triumph.

After a goalless first-half Lee Sharpe was on hand to poke the ball home and give United the lead just 30 seconds after the interval after efforts by Paul Scholes and Roy Keane had been blocked.

Alan Shearer replied with an emphatic volley for his third of the campaign as Blackburn fought hard to avoid a third straight league defeat.

But Beckham's strike in the 67th minute sparked unrestrained joy among the traveling fans.

United had to suffer an anxious last 16 minutes after Keane, the first of seven players booked, earned himself a second yellow card for clearly diving after being tackled in the penalty area.

Blackburn attacked feverishly in an attempt to find the equalizer but United defended well and twice came close to increasing its lead.

The result boosted United into third place in the table with nine points, the same as early-leader Newcastle, but Manchester has played one match more.

Blackburn remained in the bottom half with just one win from four games.

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CRITIC'S CHOICE

JAZZ

HELEN KAYE

THE last day at the Red Sea Jazz Festival in Eilat includes saxophonist Maceo Parker (Coca-Cola, 8 p.m.), Mystic Flute with Avi Piamenta and his combo (Ma'ariv, 9:30 p.m), Mongo Santamaria and his Latin Band (Coca-Cola, 10:30 p.m) and the Jodie Christian Sextet (Carlsberg, 1 a.m.), and the last jam session at 3 a.m. before everyone returns to reality.

FESTIVAL

HELEN KAYE

AND it's the last day for Kessem shel Agada at Tel Aviv's Suzanne Dellal Center which includes *Jim and Jack Jokes* from Belgium's Roultabi Theater, a visitor to the festival. It's a cornucopia of mime, clowning, music, magic, acrobatics and more in English (when it speaks at all). Out on the plaza there are freebies for the whole family from 5 to 10 p.m.

DANCE

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

OHAD Naharin's *Anaphase* is back at the Cinerama in Tel Aviv for four performances only, tonight through Saturday (9 except Friday at 10). This powerful multimedia dance work is not Naharin at his refined best, but it showcases the ensemble well and includes some very strong tableaus, including the trademark version of "Who Knows One."

FILMS

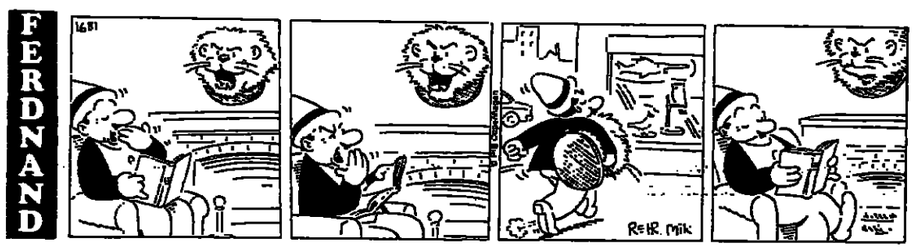
ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ **FRENCH KISS** – Meg Ryan may have the clearest eyes in Hollywood, and their semi-precious, all-American blue manages to turn the fairy-tale outline of Lawrence Kasdan's film into a fanciful possibility. If we have doubts about the movie's plausibility, the actress matches them one for one. With her strawberry lip gloss and mussed elfin hairdo, she looks like she can't quite believe that this far-flung scenario is unfolding around her. She keeps blinking extra hard to be sure. All of which is to say that Ryan brings *French Kiss* the slaphappy charm that's been missing from the season's other romantic comedies. Kevin Kline co-stars, as a slippery French con man. A little shifty, a little sweet, he plays weasel to her bunny rabbit. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)

★★ **VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED** – Based on a 1960 thriller of the same name, John Carpenter's picture is a neatly rendered and surprisingly entertaining suburban satire. For a director whose previous credits include gross-out classics like *Halloween* and *The Thing*, the movie also seems quite restrained. It centers on a pack of evil, extraterrestrial children born in a small California town: with matching silver-white hair, button noses and mean little lips, these kids are a hilarious antidote to maternal fantasies of the perfect blonde child. They're like a whole race of bad seeds. *Village of the Damned* will certainly not appeal to everyone, but those with a taste for fin-de-millennium pop-culture curios should find it very amusing. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)



Meg Ryan and Kevin Kline are headed for an intercontinental relationship in 'French Kiss.'



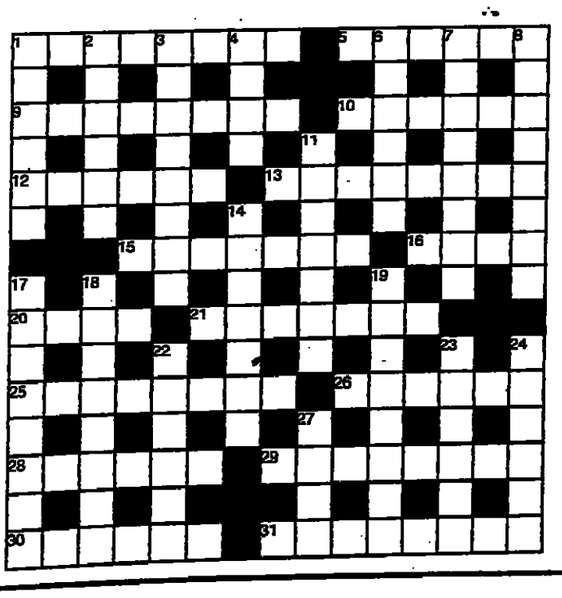
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Using iron is vital (8)
5 Neglect can make a ninny turn to drink (4,2)
9 A quiet family man, that's obvious (8)
10 A French article about support, say (6)
12 Highly inaccessible retreats for high-fliers (6)
13 Put off deals—she is without capital (8)
15 A point will be seen in due course (7)
16 Mean to grab one or two (4)
20 A cheerful expression may well hide pain (4)
21 This gets blown up when everyone is in favour (7)
25 Housing for caterers perhaps (8)
26 Holy man had transport but went on foot (6)
28 Big bloomer made by a revered figure in ancient Egypt (6)
29 Rent allowance cut in tame bird's home (8)
30 Digger oddly dressed (6)
31 People in singlet, casual shirt, or formal wear (8)

DOWN

1 Prepare staple dishes (6)
2 Politician in Ireland given supreme power (6)
3 Hidden and shown (8)
4 No Greek character is other than superior (3-1)
6 A bawdy-sounding advert (6)
7 Seek tall models with extremely slim figures (8)
8 Claims an old city quarter will provide a diversion (8)
11 The listener must be involved in subtle but all-in fashion (7)
14 A male in a store may appear embarrassed (7)
17 He's personally decorated (8)
18 Delightful—could start doing damage though (8)
19 Come together, opposing some plot (8)
22 Possibly remain at sea (6)
23 Top Venetian's responsibility to see an animal fed (6)
24 Express contrition when imprisoned again (6)
27 In the jungle each new plant gives joy (4)



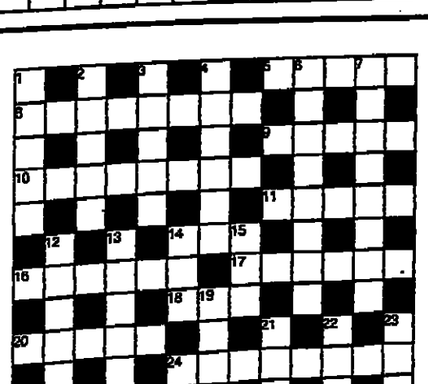
SOLUTIONS

CLOTHES IMPEACH
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ARCH PAINTBRUSH
LUORIRTA
INSOMNIAC ETHOS
EEINHAOT
ROSETTE ENDORSE

Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Broker, 4 Gnome, 8 Tramp, 9 Prudent, 10 Emirate, 11 Eton, 12 Dim, 14 Anti, 15 Item, 18 Sag, 21 Fuss, 23 Rainbow, 25 Oration, 26 Tarot, 27 Trent, 28 Brooch.

DOWN: 1 Bitter, 2 Ovation, 3 Emphasis, 4 Glue, 5 Overt, 6 Extent, 7 Speed, 13 Minister, 16 Embargo, 17 Effort, 19 Grant, 20 Twitch, 22 Spare, 24 Mist.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

5 Destroy (5)
8 Accumulating (8)
9 Wander (5)
10 American Indian axe (8)
11 French sculptor (5)
14 Before (3)
16 Talkative (6)
17 Bellowed (6)
18 Greek letter (3)
20 Mar (5)
24 Roundhead opponent (8)
25 Indistinct (5)
26 Word-game (8)
27 Start (5)

DOWN

1 Closes (5)
2 Board-game (5)
3 State of the USA (5)
4 Reply (6)
6 Sensible (8)
7 Woodwind instrument (8)
12 Padre (8)
13 Stance (8)
14 Look on (3)
15 Age (3)
19 Straw roofing (6)
21 Man-made waterway (5)
22 Arms and legs (5)
23 Short (5)

TELEVISION

■ CHANNEL 1

6:30 News **6:45** Cartoons **7:00** Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Cartoons **10:00** The Astronaut Princess **10:30** Current Affairs for youth (rpt) **11:00** Summer studio – final program

■ CHANNEL 1

15:30 Tinytoon **16:00** Heartbreak High **17:00** A New Evening **17:45** All's Chaos in the Family – Israeli comedy series **18:15** News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Health Magazine **19:00** News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 My Good Friend – comedy **20:00** Mabat **21:00** Conference Call – with Nissim Mishal **21:35** Taverna – Middle Eastern and Mediterranean music **22:15** No Man's Land – media magazine **23:05** Dream On **23:30** News magazine

■ CHANNEL 2

10:00 MaDalik (rpt) **10:30** Around the World in Eighty Days – cartoons **11:00** Cartoons **11:20** My Favorite Year (1982) – A young writer on a top TV comedy show in the 1950s is given the job of escorting the week's guest star (Peter O'Toole). (92 mins) **13:00** Platfus **13:05** Star Trek – the next generation **14:00** Freezer **15:00** Widget **15:30** Conan **16:00** The Bold and the Beautiful **17:00** Reshef at Five **17:30** Freezer **18:00** From Here and There **18:30** Who's the Boss? **19:00** Baywatch **20:00** News **20:30** It's a Deal – game show **21:05** Itche (rpt) **21:35** Late Summer Blues (1987) – Israeli drama set in the late sixties about a group of high school graduates in the last summer before their conscription to the IDF **23:50** Tanner 88 – political drama **00:00** News **00:05** Tanner 88 (continued) **00:55** Penn and Teller – magic

■ JORDAN TV

14:00 Problem Child – cartoon **14:30** Super Champs – children's drama **15:00** Tomorrow's World – documentary **15:30** Amazing Stories **16:00** Families **17:00** French programs **19:35** An End to Silence – documentary **20:00** Anything for a Laugh – comedy **20:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **21:15** Heart of Healing – documentary **22:00** News in English **22:25** Prism **22:45** Blue Skies – drama **23:45** Murder in Texas – miniseries **00:30** Perfect Strangers – comedy

■ MIDDLE EAST TV

14:00 The 700 Club **14:55** The Tiger and the Flame – And Indian queen fights for the freedom of her country **16:20** Moomins **16:55** Heathcliff **17:20** Inspector Gadget **17:45** Superbook II **18:10** Hart To Hart **19:10** Magnum P.I. **20:00** World News Tonight (Arabic) **20:30** CNN Headline News **21:00** Coach **21:30** Matlock **22:20** Murder She Wrote **23:10** The 700 Club

CABLE

■ FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Roxanne **8:50** Clips **9:00** One Life to Live **9:45** The Young and the Restless **10:30** Perfect Strangers **10:55** All in the Family **11:25** Celeste **12:10** Neighbors **12:35** Perry Mason **13:30** To be announced **14:00** Clips **14:15** St Elsewhere **15:10** Roxanne **15:55** Melrose Place **16:45** Neighbors **17:10** Antonella **18:00** One Life to Live **18:45** The Young and the Restless **19:30** Local broadcast **20:00** Celeste **20:50** Melrose Place **21:40** Sisters **22:30** Sweet Justice **23:20** Seinfeld **23:45** ENG **00:35** Law and Order **1:25** Dangerous Curves

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 Berlin Tunnel 21 (1981) – (rpt) **12:50** Never Look Back (1952) – courtroom drama (rpt) **14:05** Whose Line Is It Anyway? **14:35** Reilley Ace of Spies (1984) – (rpt) **16:00** A Winner Never Quits (1986) – (rpt) **17:40** Ruby and Rats (1990) – (rpt) **19:25** Taking Back My Life (1992) – (rpt) **21:00** The Turning (1992) – Drama about a disturbed young man and former Nazi youth who returns to his hometown after an absence of several years to help prevent his parents' getting divorced. But when he finds out that neither his family nor the townsfolk want him back he breaks into a violent rage. With Tess Harper, Karen Allen and Raymond J. Barry. (87 mins) **22:35** Crimes of Passion (1984) – Ken Russell directs this thriller about a cop who falls in love with his suspect, Kathleen Turner, a fashion designer by day and a call-girl by night. (102 mins) **00:20** Crossing the Bridge (1992) – (rpt) **2:05** The Grifters (1990) – (rpt)

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons **8:30** The Detectives **9:10** Pingo **9:35** Alice in Wonderland **10:05** Power Rangers **10:30** James Bond Junior **11:00** Saved by the Bell **11:35** Loony Toons **12:00** Beverly Hills 90210 **13:00** The Barkleys **13:25** Hugo **14:00** Cartoons **14:30** The Detectives **15:10** Pingo **15:35** Power Rangers **16:00** James Bond Junior **16:30** Saved by the Bell **17:00** Loony Toons **17:30** Beverly Hills 90210 **18:30** The Barkleys **18:55** Hugo **19:30** Three's Company **20:00** Married with Children **20:30** Growing Pains **20:55** Step by Step **21:20** Cheers **21:50** Clips

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 The Hired Hand (1971) – Low-key Western about two drifters (Peter Fonda and Warren Oates) who return to Fonda's farm where his wife and daughter are waiting. He tries to settle into a life of routine but the life of the wanderer calls him. Directed by Fonda (90 mins) **23:35** Counterfeit Traitor (1962) – Spy drama starring William Holden as a Swedish oil tycoon who is blackmailed by the Allies into spying against the Nazis. (140 mins)

■ DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University: Social Sciences and Education **12:00** Nature of Things **13:00** Special Forces **13:30** Fields of Armor **14:00** Open University **16:00** Nature of Things **17:00** Special Forces **17:30** Fields of Armor **18:00** Open University **20:00** Search for Adventure **21:00** Survival **21:30** Nature on Track **22:00** The Next Step **22:30** The Practical Guide to the Universe **23:00** Search for Adventure **23:45** Open University

■ ITV 3

17:00 Cartoons **17:30** We Won the Case **18:30** Panorama – Mideast Magazine **19:00** News in Arabic **19:30** Songs **20:00** Drama Series **21:00** Mabet **22:00** Portraits

■ ETV 2

15:30 Full House **16:00** The World – A TV History (rpt) **16:30** Imagination Captivated by Reality **18:00** Keep Fit **18:15** The Young Riders **19:00** Pickwick Papers **19:30** On Second Thoughts **20:00** A New Evening (with Russian subtitles) **20:30** Lubbock's Ten Sons **21:00** Sounds from the Auditorium

■ SUPER CHANNEL

6:00 Wiso **6:30** NBC News **7:00** ITN World News **7:15** US Market Wrap **7:30** Business Insiders **8:00** Today featuring ITN World News and FT Business **10:00** Super Shop **11:00** European Money Wheel **15:00** Washington Report **15:30** Live from Wall Street **17:00** US Money Wheel **18:30** FT Business Tonight **19:00** Today **20:00** ITN World News **20:30** Supersport **21:30** Dateline **22:30** Wiso **23:00** ITN World News **23:30** The Tonight Show with Jay Leno **00:30** Real Personal **1:00** FT Business Tonight **1:30** Nightly News

■ STAR PLUS

6:00 Wind in the Willows **6:30** Playabout **7:00** The Sullivans **7:30** De Medici Kitchen **8:00** E! TV **8:30** Donahue **9:30** Santa Barbara **10:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **11:00** Oprah Winfrey **12:00** Riviera **12:30** De Medici Kitchen **13:00** Aerobics **13:30** The Sullivans **14:00** Small Wonder **14:30** Robotech **15:00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles **15:30** Batman **16:00** Home and Away **16:30** Entertainment Tonight **17:00** M*A*S*H **17:30** Doogie Howser M.D. **18:00** Anything But Love **18:30** NYPD Blue **19:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **20:00** Santa Barbara **21:00** Hard Copy **21:30** The Fall Guy **22:30** Voyagers **23:30** Entertainment Tonight **00:00** Oprah Winfrey **1:00** Hard Copy

■ EUROSPORT

9:30 Aerobics **10:30** Dance **11:30** Swimming from Vienna **12:30** Olympic magazine **13:00** Motoring magazine **15:00** Snooker **17:00** Mountain bikes **17:30** Polo **18:30** Adventure sports **19:30** Motorcycle magazine **20:00** F1 news **20:30** Eurosport news **21:00** Boxing **23:00** F1 news **00:00** Tractor towing **1:00** Motor racing **2:00** Eurosport news

■ PRIME SPORTS

6:00 German Open golf **7:00** US Open tennis, day 2 **12:00** WTA tennis **12:30** Power boats **13:00** International motoring magazine **14:00** US Open tennis, day 2 **17:30** Baseball **18:00** Live US Open tennis, day 3 **23:00** International motoring magazine **00:00** WTA tennis **00:30** Power boats **1:00** Australian league rugby

■ BBC WORLD

News on the hour 6:00 BBC World News **6:25** Time Out: Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld **10:05** Horizon **11:25** Britain in View **12:25** Time Out: Film '95 **15:15** Panorama **17:10** World Business Report **17:25** Time Out: Classic Adventure **18:05** The Look **19:25** Time Out: Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld **22:05** Legacy **23:25** Time Out: Delia Smith's Summer Collection **00:25** World Business Report

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:06 Musical Matinee **9:05** Mendelssohn: Sextet in D for piano and strings op 110; Haydn: Divertimento no 6 in D; Mozart: Piano concerto no 15; Giuliani: Concerto in D for guitar and strings op 30; Schubert: Symphony no 9 "Great;" Brahms: Rhapsody for alto, male choir and orch op 53 **12:00** Light Classical – Chopin: Piano concerto no 2 (Szekely); Tchaikovsky: Francesca da Rimini orchestral fantasy (Gewandhaus/Masur) **13:00** Live broadcast from Henry Crown Hall – Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra-IBA cond. David Shallon, soloist Susanna Poretzky (mezzo-soprano). Goldmark: Orchestral excerpts from The Queen of Sheba; Dvorak: Biblical Songs for voice and orch (first performance by JSO); Bernstein: Symphony no 1 "Jeremiah" **±14:30** Encore **15:00** Keys **16:00** Bach: Mass in G no 236; Pleyel: Clarinet concerto (Meyer); Weber: Fantasy pieces in F minor for piano and orch (Demidenko); Harry Nadel: "From the Days of Struggle and Independence" **18:00** Schubert: Sonatina in D (orig for violin and piano); Sinding: 4 piano pieces (Lowenthal); Parry and Vaughan Williams: 2 English songs (Baker, Moore); Debussy: Petite Suite for cello and piano (Perenyi, Kocsis); Franck: Sonata in A (orig for violin and piano) (Nicolet, flute/Berman, piano); Rachmaninoff: Trio no 1 in G minor "Elegiac" (Beaux Arts); Debussy: La mer **20:05** Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra-IBA, cond. David Shallon. Shulamit Ran: Legends for orchestra; Bloch: Schelomo rhapsody for cello and orch (Isserlis); Bernstein: Songfest **21:50** Cleveland Quartet, Sabine Meyer (clarinet) – Beethoven: Quartet op 18/5; Schubert: Quartet movement D703; Mozart: Quintet for clarinet and strings K581 **23:00** Golden Generation – soprano Claudia Muzio in works by Verdi, Bellini and Boito

WHERE TO GO

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JERUSALEM

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TEL AVIV

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WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 706660; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Ahva, 165 Dizengoff, 522-4717; Afarsemon, 110 Yehuda Halevi, 561-3010. Till 3 a.m. Thursday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 522-3535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 641-3730.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Shor-Tabachnik, 3 Netiv Ha'avot, Kfar Sava, 425850.
Netanya: Clal Pharm, 60 Binyamin, 338091.
Krayot area: Sabinia, 24 Hagefen, Kiryat Bialik, 735674.
Haifa: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 333312.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m..

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, pediatrics, ENT); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, ophthalmology); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics, obstetrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	**100**
FIRE	**102**
FIRST AID	**101**

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 551333	Kfar Sava* 902222
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Beersheba* 274767	Netanya* 804444
Bet Shemesh 523133	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333	Rehovot* 451333
Eilat* 332444	Rishon* 8642333
Haifa* 512233	Safed 920333
Jerusalem* 523133	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 9985444	Tiberias* 792444

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The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-529205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE **Blade Runner** – Director's Version 5, 9:30 ★ Pranom Cannen 7 ★ **The Presidio** Hyams, 9:30 G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 788448 **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Casper** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30 ★ **Free Willy 2** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 ★ **Muriel's Wedding** 10 ★ **Under the Domin Tree** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30 ★ **Congo** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Madness of King George** 7:30, 10 ★ **Andre•Top Dog** 11 a.m., 1:30 ★ **French Kiss** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Village of the Damned** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Carrington** 5, 7:30, 10 JERUSALEM THEATER **Eat, Drink, Man, Woman** 7, 9:30 ★ **Into the West** 5 ★ **Priest** 7, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot **Die Hard 3** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Pocahontas** (English dialogue) 7:30 ★ **While You Were Sleeping** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **Power Rangers** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **The Jungle Book•Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **Braveheart** 9:30 ★ **Judge Dredd** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30 ★ **Forget Paris•Bad Boys•Don Juan** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle** 9:45 ★ **Man of the House** 11 a.m., 1, 5 SEMADAR **Priscilla** 7, 11 ★ **Death and the Maiden** 9

TEL AVIV
CINEMATHEQUE **Eat, Drink, Man, Woman** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Duck Soup** 7 ★ **There Was No War in '72** 9:30 DIZENGOFF **Priest•Under the Domin Tree** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Burnt By the Sun** 7 ★ **Andre** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **Murder in the First Degree** 10 DRIVE IN **Pulp Fiction** 9:45 GAN HA'IR **Priscilla** 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 GAT **Braveheart** 6:15, 9:30 GORDON **The Snapper** 8, 10 ★ **Citizen Kane** 6 HAKOLNOA **Death and the Maiden** 5, 7:30, 9:45 G.G. HOD 1–4 ☎ 5228090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. **Free Willy 2** 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 5 ★ **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 1:30 ★ **Village of the Damned** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Muriel's Wedding** 7:30, 10 ★ **Casper** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Carrington** 5, 7:30, 10 LEV 1-4 ☎ 5288288 **Leon** 3 ★ **Shawshank Redemption** 3, 7:30, 10 ★ **Shallow Grave** 1, 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ **The Madness of King George** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Lifetimes** 11 a.m. ★ **Naked** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Muriel's Wedding** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **Casper** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:45, 10 RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288* Dizengoff Center **Die Hard 3** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **While You Were Sleeping** 9:45 ★ **Pocahontas** (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue)•**Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **Judge Dredd** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Jungle Book** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **Bad Boys** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Man of the House** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30 ★ **Crimson Tide** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **101 Dalmatians** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ≠ G.G. SHAHAF 1-2 **French Kiss** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Boys on the Side** 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ☎ 5177952 2 Yona Hanavi St. **There Was No War in '72** 5 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ **Outbreak** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Browning Version** 7:30, 10 G.G. TEL AVIV ☎ 5281181 65 Pinsker St. **Batman Forever** 5:30, 8, 10:15 ★ **Congo** 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ **Village of the Damned** 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 TEL AVIV MUSEUM ☎ 6961297 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard **Amateur** 5, 8, 10

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAM ☎ 325755 **Shawshank Redemption** 7, 9:15 ★ **Murder in the First Degree** 7:15, 9:30 ATZMON 1-5 ☎ 673003 **Muriel's Wedding•Priscilla•Village of the Damned•French Kiss** 4:30, 7, 9:15 ★ **Batman Forever** 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 CINEMA CAFÉ MORIAH ☎ 242477 **The Madness of King George** 7:30, 9:30 ORLY **Eat, Drink, Man, Woman** 7, 9:30 PANORAMA 1-3 ☎ 382020 **Free Willy 2** 11 a.m., 1, 4:30 ★ **Andre** 1 ★ **Priest** 7, 9:30 ★ **Casper** 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 ★ **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 1 ★ **Shallow Grave** 9:30 ★ **Carrington** 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 674311 **Judge Dredd•The Jungle Book** 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Bad Boys•Don Juan** 7, 9:15 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 416899/8 **While You Were Sleeping** 7, 9:15 ★ **Forget Paris•Die Hard 3•Bad Boys** 7, 9:15 ★ **Baby's Day Out** 11 a.m. ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 12:45, 3, 5 ★ **The Jungle Book•Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **Braveheart** 9 ★ **Judge Dredd** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7, 9:30 ★ **Man of the House** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7 ★ **Braveheart** 9 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 246563 **While You Were Sleeping** 9:15 ★ **Pocahontas** (English dialogue) 7:15 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 12:45, 5 ★ **Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Forget Paris** 7, 9:15 ★ **Die Hard 3** 9:15 ★ **Man of the House** 11 a.m., 12:45, 5, 7

ARAD
STAR **Die Hard 3** 10 ★ **Casper** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 ★ **Andre** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **French Kiss** 7:30, 10 ★ **Judge Dredd** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL **Free Willy 2** 11:30 a.m., 4 ★ **While You Were Sleeping•Muriel's Wedding** 7:45, 10 ★ **Braveheart** 6:15, 9:15 ★ **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Jungle Book•Timecop** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **Jurassic Park** 11:30 a.m., 4 G.G. ORI 1-3☎ 711223 **Die Hard 3** 10 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **Judge Dredd** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **French Kiss** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Casper** 11:30 a.m. ★ **Pocahontas** (English dialogue) 7:45

ASHKELON
G.G. GIL **Casper•Free Willy 2** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **Batman Forever** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Muriel's Wedding•Shallow Grave** 7:30, 10 ★ **French Kiss** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Jurassic Park** 11:30 a.m. RAV CHEN ☎ 711223 **Judge Dredd** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Die Hard 3** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Braveheart** 9:30 ★ ★ **Forget Paris•Bad Boys** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 **Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue)•**The Jungle Book•Power Rangers** 11 a.m., 5

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 **Casper** 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Die Hard 3** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Village of the Damned•Forget Paris** 11 a.m., 12:45, 5 ★ **Free Willy 2•Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Braveheart** 9:30 ★ **Judge Dredd** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Bad Boys** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Man of the House** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30

BEERSHEBA
G.G. GIL **Batman Forever** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **Casper** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Madness of King George** 7:30, 10

DIMONA
MOFET **Judge Dredd** 8

HADERA
LEV 1-4 **French Kiss•Die Hard 3** 7:30, 10 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 10:30 a.m., 12:30, 5:30 ★ **Braveheart** 9:30 ★ **Judge Dredd** 12:30 p.m., 7:30 ★ **Batman Forever** 10:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 10 ★ **Free Willy 2** 10:30 a.m., 5:30 ★ **Andre** 10:30 a.m., 12:30, 5:30

HERZLIYA
COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) ☎ 6902666 **Blue Sky•While You Were Sleeping** 8, 10 DANIEL HOTEL ☎ 544044 THE AUDITORIUM **The Madness of King George** STAR☎ 589088 29 Sokolov St. **Free Willy 2** 6:15 ★ **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 4:15, 5:45, 8 ★ **Forget Paris** 10:15 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 4:15, 6:30 ★ **Andre** 11 a.m., 4:30, 7:45 ★ **Carrington** 8, 10 ★ **French Kiss** 8, 10:15

KARMIEL
CINEMA 1–3 ☎ 887277 **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue)•**Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue)•**The Jungle Book** 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Forget Paris•Before Sunrise•Bad Boys** 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL **Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue) 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 5 ★ **Muriel's Wedding** 10 ★ **Pocahontas** (English dialogue) 7:45 ★ **The Jungle Book** 11:30 a.m., 1:30 ★ **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Forget Paris•Village of the Damned** 7:30, 10 ★ **Free Willy 2•Casper** 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 5 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue)•**The Man of the House** 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 5 ★ **French Kiss** 7:30, 10 ★ **Carrington** 7:30, 10 ★ **Die Hard 3** 5, 7:30, 10

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. KIRYON 1-8 ☎ 779166 **Batman Forever•French Kiss•Village of the Damned•Die Hard 3•Judge Dredd** 11 a.m., 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **Free Willy 2•101 Dalmatians•Andre** 11 a.m., 4:45 ★ **Shallow Grave** 9:30 ★ **Casper** 11 a.m., 4:45, 7 ★ **Blue Sky•Congo•Carrington** 7, 9:30

KIRYAT MALACHI
MOFET **Free Willy 2** 5:30, 8:30

KIRYAT ONO
MATNAS **Pocahontas** (English dialogue) 7, 9:15 **KIRYAT SHEMONA**
G.G. GIL **Batman Forever** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **French Kiss** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **While You Were Sleeping** 7:30, 10 ★ **101 Dalmatians** 11:30 a.m. ★ **Stargate** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10

LOD
STAR **Casper** 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **French Kiss** 7:30, 10 ★ **Batman Forever** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Judge Dredd** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Power Rangers** 11 a.m., 1

NAHARIYA
HECHAL HATARBUT **Die Hard 3** 5, 8:30

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 404729 **Casper** 11:30 a.m. ★ **Batman Forever•The Village of the Damned** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Free Willy 2** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **French Kiss** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Carrington** 7:30, 10 ...

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 628452 **Casper•Free Willy 2** 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Batman Forever** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:45, 10:15 ★ **Village of the Damned** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Madness of King George•Carrington** 7:30, 10 ★ **Junior** 11:30 a.m. ★ **French Kiss** 5, 7:30, 10 RAV CHEN **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Die Hard 3** 9:45 ★ **Braveheart** 9:30 ★ **Forget Paris•Bad Boys** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:15 ★ **Pagemaster** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Man of the House** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:15

OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN **Murder in the First Degree** 9:30 ★ **Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Forget Paris** 7:15, 9:30 ★ **Braveheart** 9 ★ **Man of the House** 11 a.m., 5, 7 ★ **Free Willy 2** 11 a.m., 5, 7

OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL **Free Willy 2** 11:30 a.m., 4 ★ **Casper•Pocahontas** (Hebrew dialogue) 11:30 a.m., 5 ★

Hizbullah escalates attacks in zone

Heaviest shelling in months

DAVID RUDGE

THE heaviest exchanges of fire in months rocked south Lebanon yesterday as Hizbullah launched a series of long-range attacks against IDF and South Lebanese Army positions in the security zone.

There were no casualties among IDF or SLA troops in the fierce fighting, while Hizbullah announced that two of its men had been killed.

The extremist Shi'ite organization did not say where or when the two were killed, giving rise to speculation they may have died in recent IAF air strikes on Hizbullah targets north of the zone.

The deaths of the two yesterday brought to 13 the number of Hizbullah gunmen killed by IDF and SLA troops in the past 10 days.

The fighting began in the early morning when Hizbullah gunners opened fire with mortars, machine guns and anti-tank missiles at IDF and SLA positions in the Bint J'bail region, in the western sector, and Dabsha and Huneh regions in the eastern part of the zone.

Later, Hizbullah gunmen launched long-range attacks on another SLA outpost in the Suwadeh area, in the eastern sector of the zone, and twice fired at IDF and SLA posts in the Al-mane and Shomriya region in the zone's central sector.

IDF and SLA gunners returned fire, blasting suspected Hizbullah targets north of the zone. Military sources stressed that in many of the cases Hizbullah gunmen fired mortars and other long-range weapons from inside villages north of the zone, using the civilian population there as cover.

Israel views such action as a breach of the Operation Accountability understandings under which Israel agreed to refrain from firing at residential areas in return for a Hizbullah commitment to cease Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee.

The Paris-based *Al Watan al-Arrabe* newspaper reported, however, that Hizbullah's activities in towns and villages north of the zone is not to the liking of all local residents.

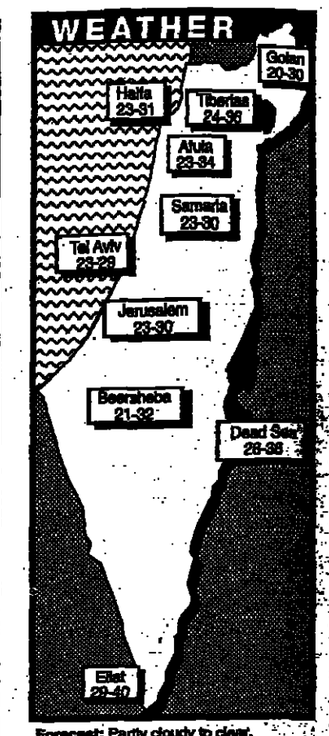
According to the paper which quoted what it termed "reliable sources," many local residents, especially in and around Nabatiyeh, have complained about the high-handed attitude of Hizbullah gunmen.

It also reported that in one incident recently, Hizbullah gunmen "arrested" four men while they were hunting pigs in a wadi not far from Sidon.

The four were reportedly taken under guard to a Hizbullah command post in the port city where they were interrogated about their activities and allegedly tortured.



National Labor Court Judge Elisheva Barak celebrates after being sworn in yesterday at a Beit Hanassi ceremony attended by her husband, Supreme Court President Aharon Barak (left), and Justice Minister David Liba'i. (Brian Heudler)



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Decline in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	13	55	19	66	rain
Buenos Aires	09	48	21	70	cloudy
Cairo	23	73	35	95	clear
Chicago	23	73	29	82	cloudy
Copenhagen	09	48	20	68	cloudy
Frankfurt	10	50	17	63	cloudy
Geneva	11	52	18	61	rain
Helsinki	08	46	20	68	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	79	33	86	clear
Lisbon	22	72	36	97	clear
London	13	55	18	64	cloudy
Los Angeles	23	74	37	99	clear
Madrid	18	64	31	88	clear
Montreal	15	59	24	75	clear
Moscow	15	59	24	75	pt.cloudy
New York	18	64	26	79	clear
Paris	12	54	18	64	cloudy
Rome	19	66	29	79	clear
Stockholm	09	37	14	57	clear
Sydney	10	50	21	70	cloudy
Tokyo	25	77	30	86	clear
Toronto	18	69	24	75	cloudy
Vienna	11	52	17	63	pt.cloudy
Zurich	08	46	12	54	rain

Winning numbers and cards

IN last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 3 , 5 , 25, 34, 38, 42 and the additional number was 4 .

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the eight of spades, eight of hearts, ace of diamonds, and nine of clubs.

Shetreet promises religious equality

HAIM SHAPIRO

RELIGIOUS Affairs Minister Shimon admitted yesterday that the religious services offered to the Moslem, Druse and Christian communities were inferior to those for Jews and promised to rectify the situation.

"For decades, the Declaration of Independence promise of full equality for all has not been implemented," Shetreet told leaders of the non-Jewish communities during a meeting at Beit Hanassi.

He promised that improvements would come in every area, although he admitted that by increasing support, the ministry may also be criticized for interfering in religion. Some interference is necessary, he said, if only to ensure that the recipients fulfill criteria.

Shetreet also noted that the improvements would not come immediately, but would be spread out over a few years.

Before the recent budget cuts, he added, he had hoped to improve the situation more quickly.

The plan, he said, would mainly relate to the Moslem community, since it was the largest.

This involves a building program for religious courts and a training program for religious judges in order to fill vacant places.

In a printed summary, it included plans for a new body, a center for development of Moslem religious services and buildings, which would care for the upkeep of mosques, shrines, and cemeteries.

The salaries of Moslem religious functionaries will also be equivalent to those of rabbis, he promised.

"If an imam at Tel Sheva has to collect contributions at the end the prayers in order to make up his salary, this is not worthy of the state of Israel," he said.

President Ezer Weizman said he placed great importance on this effort and that he would take personal responsibility for its implementation.

However, not all those present were entirely happy with the way the plan is being implemented.

Rafik Haj Yihye, head of the Taiba local council, said Shetreet had not consulted with local leaders or religious leaders before presenting the plan.

Mt. Carmel tunnel project reaches final bid stage

DAVID RUDGE

WORK on the country's first toll road, the $120 million Mt. Carmel tunnel project, is expected to start within two years, despite delays resulting from objections to the scheme.

Haifa Mayor Amram Mitzna met with Finance Minister Avraham Shohat on Monday, after which it was announced that most of the obstacles to the project had now been overcome.

Mitzna said the vast majority of Haifa residents support the project and the objectors are only a small group.

Delays to the project have arisen as a result of problems in expropriating some of the land, plus opposition by conservationists.

Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar announced yesterday that five international concerns have reached the final bidding stage, out of 13 groups which originally submitted bids for the project.

He said the process of deciding which of the five would be awarded the contract for the massive excavation and tunnel construction project would be completed within a year and work would start 12 months later.

Two tunnels, each with two lanes in both directions, will be cut through the heart of the mountain, linking the southern outskirts of Haifa with the north.

The five-kilometer tunnels will run from the bottom of Rehov Freud in the south to the checkpost junction at the northern entrance to the city, bypassing Haifa's congested downtown.

The Knesset has already passed a law enabling the developers, a private concern, to charge motorists a toll for using the road.

Labor begins campaign to attract new members

SARAH HONIG

THE Labor Party yesterday kicked off its membership drive, which precedes the party primaries for Knesset candidates.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal, in charge of the campaign, promised it would be a clean one, with fewer forgeries and coerced memberships than was the case four years ago. He also called on Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon and his colleagues to return to the Labor fold.

The drive is a prerequisite to holding the primaries, because only those who officially register as Labor members and pay party membership dues will be entitled to participate in the primaries as candidates or voters.

Shahal said the party has about 75,000 members, far below the 180,000 who registered in the last membership drive. However, the number quickly and drastically dipped after the primaries, after it emerged that many were bogus and many others – employees in Histadrut-owned enterprises – were coerced into registering.

The Likud counts some 200,000 members.

Shahal yesterday predicted confidently that, "When this membership drive is over, Labor will clearly emerge as the single largest party in Israel. I am not just expressing a hope, but I know what I speak of. This is something I am sure of and know for a fact."

Labor Party Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli and Shahal both plan to appeal to Ramon and MKs Amir Peretz and Shmuel Avital to return to Labor, "so as not to miss the opportunity to be elected to the new Labor list of candidates. If they do not pay their party dues now, they will be left out," Shahal warned the trio.

He also expressed the hope that soldiers would be allowed to participate in party primaries. The idea has won preliminary approval by the IDF, but there is still considerable opposition to it.

Labor MK Ori Orr said yesterday that, "It is unthinkable that everyone, in any military unit, would know which party a soldier supports by noting which primary he takes part in. It would be different if all primaries were held on the same day, but this is not the case. Moreover, it is unhealthy for each soldier to realize the political affiliation of his commanders. There is no surer way to introduce politicization into the IDF."

Labor plans to aim its campaign at the hip members of the younger generation.

L'Oreal settles boycott case for $1.4m.

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

COSMETICS giant L'Oreal agreed yesterday to pay more than $1.4 million to settle US Commerce Department charges it cooperated with the Arab boycott of Israel.

John Despres, assistant secretary of commerce for export enforcement, said that US anti-boycott laws "will continue to be enforced vigorously until the boycott is completely ended."

According to L'Oreal spokesman Seth Goldschlager, the French-based conglomerate in 1989 asked its American subsidiary, Helena Rubinstein, Inc., now known as Parbel of Florida Inc., for information on its dealings in Israel. The information was provided, he said.

Although such inquiries are legal under French law, they are a violation of American law because the information could be used to furnish information to the Arab League, he said.

L'Oreal had sought to be removed from the Arab blacklist of companies dealing with Israel, but never interrupted its business dealings in Israel, he said. It has a factory in Migdal Ha'emek.

The Commerce Department said it had charged L'Oreal with violating US law by not reporting it received requests for information from the Arab League.

According to a consent agreement drawn up by the Commerce Department's Office of Anti-Boycott Compliance and signed by the two sides yesterday, the document "does not constitute a finding ... that Parbel engaged in discriminatory business practices in furtherance or in compliance with the Arab League's economic boycott of Israel."

In a letter to Anti-Defamation League director Abraham Foxman, L'Oreal chairman Lindsay Owens-Jones agreed the company "should not have replied to boycott inquiries" from the Arab League and vowed "such action will not happen again."

L'Oreal decided to settle, said Goldschlager, because litigation "would have obscured L'Oreal's positive track record on Israel."

MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
Director-General's Bureau
REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT

The National Budget Principles Law 1985 establishes the right to submit requests for support, from funds allocated to the Ministry, under the 1995 state budget.
The Minister for Religious Affairs has accepted the main recommendations of the Freedman Commission and, on the basis of these recommendations, criteria have been established for the provision of such support by the Ministry (Yod Pei 5755, p. 4155, of July 26, 1995).
Public institutions, as defined by law, which are not bodies subsidiary to a state agency, whose objective is an objective included in the above criteria, and which seek support from the Ministry of Religious Affairs, may obtain a copy of the amended criteria and forms on which to apply for support, from the following locations and at the times stated below.

Office	Dates Criteria and Forms are Available
Jerusalem - Min. of Religious Affairs 5 Ben Yehuda	Between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday - Thursday, from today, Wednesday, Aug. 30, until the last date for submitting applications
Tel Aviv - Min. of Religious Affairs 9 Ahad Ha'am, Shalom Mayer Tower 24th floor	Between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday - Thursday, from today, Wednesday, Aug. 30, until the last date for submitting applications
Haifa - Min. of Religious Affairs 6 Hassan Shukri	Between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday - Thursday, from today, Wednesday, Aug. 30, until the last date for submitting applications
Beersheba - Ministry of Religious Affairs Sderot Shazar, Beit Ushira building	Between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday - Thursday, from today, Wednesday, Aug. 30, until the last date for submitting applications

The filled-in application forms, with the required attachments, should be sent by registered mail to "Request for Assistance," The Ministry of Religious Affairs, **P.O.B. 7517, Jerusalem 91074.** For public institutions, the last date for submitting applications for support from the 1995 budget is **Thursday, September 14, 1995.** Applications should be mailed to the above address. **Applications may not be delivered by hand.** Applications submitted after the above date will not be considered.
The attention of those submitting applications is drawn to the changes in the procedures for submitting applications, in the documents to be attached to applications, and in the particulars and data to be provided with applications, as detailed in the general section of the criteria, in the amended version.
In addition, the Ministry advises those concerned that it presently engaged in a detailed examination of all the costs, involved in all the types of activity it supports, the intention being to make it possible to put the Ministry's support operations on an equitable basis that will be fair to all the institutions receiving support.
The Ministry requests the cooperation of the institutions, when contacted by its representatives, and by the company preparing the survey.
Those submitting applications are asked to obtain a receipt for the registered letter containing their application.
The Ministry reserves the right to utilize all or part of its budget for support activities, for activities carried out by it directly, or by the religious councils.

Dr. Gershon Metzger
Director-General

05-4416b

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RABBI AHARON LICHTENSTEIN
Rosh Yeshivat Har Etzion
will deliver a shiur in memory of his parents
on
מתנות כהנים ולויים וחלקם בארץ
on
Thursday, August 31, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. at
The Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Institute
40 Rehov Duvdevani, Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem
Sources available on request by fax from: Rabbi Michael Strick 02-431688
This shiur is in Hebrew
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Recorded information: 03-5653696 (24 hours)

Mr. Arafat, don't touch Jerusalem, you will burn your hands! **Ulrich Hartmann**

هكذا من الاصل